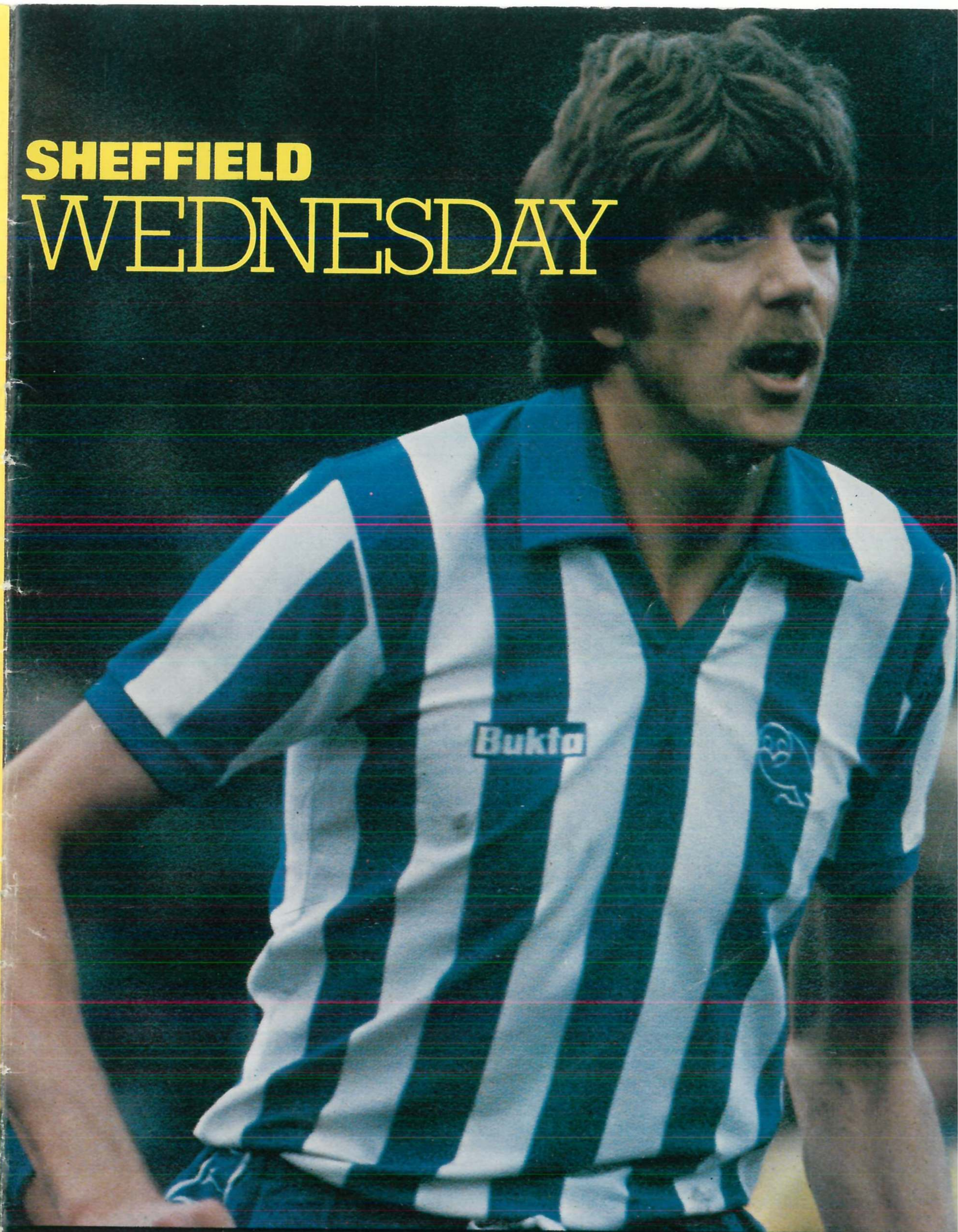


SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



BOLTON WANDERERS

Tuesday, 16th February, 1982 Kick-off 7.30 p.m. Football League Division Two Vol. 8 No. 13 Price 35p
'THE OWL' OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE OF SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



CHARLTONS VIEW

Three points tonight could possibly move us into third place in the Second Division, a spot we would then have to maintain to achieve our ultimate goal of promotion. Results, so far this month have been good, so I hope we do not flatter to deceive. Our opponents of this evening will certainly be no pushover.

When this game was originally due to be played last December Bolton were bottom of the league, and I wrote in the programme notes for that postponed fixture, that like many others I could not understand it. The Lancashire club had too much quality to be there for long and events since have proved me right. True, they are still near the foot of the table, but are gradually hoisting themselves away, so tonight's points are vital for both of us.

I don't think I can remember a match that contained so many talking points as our last home encounter against Luton Town. I know from my own experiences and from what other members of staff have told me that it seemed as if everyone wanted to discuss it. Well, I suppose in some ways it's good for the game in so much that from the supporters point of view whatever they felt, they certainly got their money's worth. Despite my inner feelings, I tried to play events down a bit, so may I just say that perhaps we should not be too hard on the referee — after all everyone has their bad days!

Following our good start to the season, when we won our first four games without conceding a goal, the opposing side have taken the lead in fifteen of the twenty games since. Remarkably, we have come back on eleven of those occasions to get a result, including the fact that we did it twice against Norwich and Luton. I have had my criticisms of the side but I have been pleased that they have shown this character in their make-up. I don't like going a goal behind but I usually feel we can pull it back and in past seasons that has not always been the case.

So far this season we have used twenty professionals in our matches, half of whom have played all their first team football at this club. I am pretty chuffed about that especially as all these ten are twenty-one or under. It puts the club on a pretty solid basis and we also have one or



two very promising kids coming through. Our average age in the most recent matches has been twenty-one including our "old man" at the club Ian Mellor. Seriously 'Spider' is a wonderful professional, a hundred percenter and a credit to the game. There are many who would do well to take a leaf out of his book and any youngster coming into football will not go far wrong if they look to him for example.

We are all delighted with Gary Bannister's award as the Yorkshire area's Young Player of the Month. Fully deserved, 'Banno' celebrated in style by becoming the match winner at Wrexham in Saturday and the picture opposite shows him celebrating the goal, his 14th with two other youngsters, John Pearson and Paul Shirtliff who have both done well since coming into the team recently. I have a feeling it might well be the first of other recognitions for our leading goalscorer, I hope so.

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1951-52, 1955-56, 1958-59.
Runners-up: 1949-50
Division 3: Promoted 1980
F.A. Cup Winners: 1896, 1907, 1935
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BOLTON

WANDERERS

Alan Gowling



7th November 1981 turned out to be a bit of a red letter day for the three clubs then anchored at the foot of the Second Division; Wrexham collected only their second home win of the campaign, Orient beat us by three goals down in London and over at Burnden Park there were some very happy faces as Watford went down 2-0.

The smiles of satisfaction in the Bolton camp went beyond just celebrating a perhaps unexpected triumph, welcome though it was. For at the eleventh attempt Wanderers had actually won on a Saturday, and with that particular jinx out of the way must have looked forward to weekends with a bit more optimism.

Such is the nature of the struggle at the wrong end of the table that even Wanderer's minor success story of 15 points from 11 games since that early November triumph has not significantly altered their position; beating Barnsley at Burden Park ten days ago took Bolton out of the bottom three, but there is still a long way to go with other clubs in the danger area boasting a game or two in hand.

Last season Bolton needed a late surge to pull themselves out of trouble, and this term has been dominated by a whole catalogue of injuries — the sort of problems that might intrigue physiotherapists but haunt managers. It says a lot for George Mulhall that he has worked hard to build a better Bolton outfit and gradually begun to achieve results when before December alone he had seen nine of his playing staff in plaster at some time or other!

It's been a difficult season too as regards the club's defence. While the attack has failed to score in ten of their 24 league games to date, the defence has conceded three own goals and several penalties.

Those own goals could be a big factor in Bolton's destiny. In the 2-0 setback at Shrewsbury defender Mike Bennett put past 'keeper McDonagh as early as the fourth minute before a penalty wrapped things up and at Palace Paul Jones' own goal gave the South Londoners three points that they rarely looked likely to get by their own efforts. Mike Doyle's 18 yard own goal the other week at Oldham meant, ultimately, a share of the spoils.

Apart from losing away to Crystal Palace and Shrewsbury, the Trotters have been beaten at Barnsley, Cardiff, Chelsea, Luton, Newcastle and Rotherham in the league and again at Palace in the F.A. Cup — a penalty decided the tie. However, a welcome away win in September at Derby by 2-0 and two draws (at Norwich, where Jim McDonagh performed heroics to keep the scoreline blank, as well as at Boundary Park) means that their current eight games without a defeat sequence at home has given them a chance.

The biggest indication of the decline in Bolton's fortunes in the autumn was shown by the October home game with Cambridge. Last season Wanderer's walloped their visitors by 6-1. This time round there were again seven goals — but Cambridge won 4-3, with the help of a penalty.



Peter Nicholson

REGULAR VISITORS

Today sees Bolton's 45th visit to Sheffield to meet us in a league match, and with Wanderers making four visits in Cup games it is easy to see why Wednesday-Bolton battles have been traditionally attractive to Sheffield folk.

In the previous 44 league encounters in Sheffield (seven at Olive Grove, the rest here) we have come out on top in 28 with ten drawn. All told, Wednesday have claimed 88 goals — though last season one of the two scored in the corresponding fixture was an own goal from Bolton's

Jones. Terry Curran got the other from the spot.

Those Wednesdayites who appreciate high scoring games will hope that today will see the third occasion that we have put seven past Bolton at Hillsborough. Our visitor's best so far is four in a seven goal thriller, though they would no doubt settle for the two they scored in 1974 — the Trotters' last win here.

FOUR YEARS AGO AT THE LANE

Any one here today who was at Bramall Lane in early 1978 to see a superb Bolton team hit five goals past United will understand the disappointment that Bolton's supporters have felt in the past two years. That particular Trotters line-up boasted the skills up front of Willie Morgan, Neil Whatmore and Frank Worthington and the Burnden Park club went on to win the Division Two crown ahead of Southampton and Spurs.

But relegated two years later, Bolton slid to within two points of Third Division soccer last season and have been in trouble since the opening day of this.

Neil Whatmore, top scorer with 14 last season, has renewed his partnership with Worthington at Birmingham.

PLAYING STAFF

Now in his second spell at Burnden Park, former Rotherham 'keeper **Jim McDonagh** arrived from Everton in the summer and currently the Eire international is first choice ahead of one-time Doncaster No. 1 **Dennis Peacock**, who at 6' 3" is reckoned to be amongst the tallest of league 'keepers.

Former England full-back **Steve Whitworth** made over 350 league appearances for Leicester before joining Sunderland, but unhappy with the Roker crowd reactions was glad to join Bolton in October for £25,000. **Ian Brennan** chalked up almost 200 league games at Burnley before a similar fee last season brought him to Bolton, where his ability to play in midfield or defence will help in the months to come.

A small outlay ten years ago secured Blackpool defender **Peter Nicholson**, who has repaid the fee many times over during his 300 plus games with Bolton.

Central defender **Paul Jones** has been on the fringe of international recognition and can lay claim to a goalscoring touch that has brought him an average of a goal around every ten or eleven games during his stay at Burnden Park. Northern Irish honours might not be too far away for **Gerry McElhinney**, signed from Distillery well over a year ago.

There are high hopes at Burnden Park for left-back **Mike Bennett**, a former Youth international.



Wednesday regulars will recall that two goals from Manchester City's versatile **Tony Henry** a couple of years ago put us out of the League Cup, and Bolton paid £125,000 just a couple of months ago for the utility player who had a run out as substitute at Wembley last May.

Bolton groomed **David Hoggan** — a Scots Under-21 midfielder — and Merseyside lad **Peter Reid** for their midfield, though Reid's promising career (he was captain of England Under-21's) was hit by a long injury lay-off for most of 1979. West Brom midfielder **Len Cantello** cost a record £350,000 in the summer of that year and has shown himself to be a dynamic influence on the team's middle order.

In October Bolton secured **Jeff Chandler** from Leeds, though the £40,000 Eire international is no stranger to Lancashire for he began his career at Blackpool.

Current chairman of the Professional Footballers Association is one-time Manchester United, Huddersfield and Newcastle forward **Alan Gowling**. Gowling cost £120,000 from Newcastle three years ago, and has notched well over a century of league goals over the years. Recently he's been drafted into defence to help out.

A free transfer brought **John Thomas** from Everton 18 months ago, while fellow striker **Chris Thompson** has been a professional at Burnden Park for over four years.

SPECIAL FILE

A lot of Manchester City's success since returning to the top in 1966 hinged on players like **Mike Doyle**, a local lad whose determination won a place in the Maine Road midfield and in well over 450 appearances won many honours — including five England caps.

In the summer of '78 Stoke City signed Doyle for around £50,000 to add drive to their ambitions, and with over a century of games in the Potteries Bolton manager George Mulhall saw the 35 year old as the kind of whole-hearted player his team needed to climb out of trouble. At first Mulhall's overtures were rejected but his persistence was rewarded a few weeks ago for a reported fee of £50,000. Yet it has been a remarkable period for Doyle; in his last match for Stoke he conceded a penalty, gave away an own goal on his debut for Bolton and in his second outing for his new side was sent off at Newcastle!

Mansfield borrowed forward **Mike Carter** a couple of seasons ago and at Bolton he is renowned for his spectacular goals. Carter's one goal this season brought three points at Orient's expense in November.

A successful summer in the States showed **Brian Kidd** hadn't lost the goalscoring touch that thrilled Manchester United, Arsenal, Manchester City and Everton before £150,000 nearly two years ago brought the twice-capped England striker to Bolton.

18 year old forward **Wayne Foster** has recently been given his first taste of league action, along with **Neil Berry**. **Geoff Langley** made his debut in December, against Blackburn.



Paul Jones

REPORTS

DIVISION TWO . . . CENTRAL LEAGUE . . . F.A. CUP . . . NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE
YOUTH CUP . . . LEAGUE CUP . . . FRIENDLIES . . . COUNTY CUP . . . DIVISION TWO . . . CENTRAL
LEAGUE . . . F.A. CUP . . . NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE . . . YOUTH CUP . . . LEAGUE CUP

Tuesday, 19th January, 1982

LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 WEDNESDAY 2

At last Wednesday found success in London with Palace failing to capitalise on a early lead and the Owls finishing more convincing victors than the scoreline suggests.

It was a stuttering start for the Owls, Bannister brought a good save from Barron with a wicked dipping shot from 25 yards but the home side generally called the tune.

After nine minutes Wicks put Palace ahead with a header following a corner which left question marks against the Wednesday defence. For a short while Palace retained their ascendancy but there were definite signs of a great improvement by the Owls as they started to get on top.

Some splendid team work culminated in a splendid long ball from Megson who set Gary Bannister away and the Owls leading scorer outspinted Wicks, ran round the advancing 'keeper and calmly walked the ball over the line.

On the stroke of half-time Wednesday suffered a blow when Grant jarred his ankle in a 50-50 challenge. The result of substitute Pearson coming on meant a re-shuffle of the team.

Despite these changes Wednesday attacked a rapidly deteriorating Palace and got very much on top. Another goal for the Owls always looked likely and in the 70th minute they gained deserved reard.

A sweet moment it was too for skipper Mike Pickering to notch his first ever goal for the club and only his second in over 230 appearances in league football.

Initially Wednesday seemed unfortunate not to gain a penalty when Bannister looked to have been tripped. However they won a corner which was not cleared and Owen won possession on the right and his cross picked out Pickering who ran in the power home a far post header.

Wednesday were now in no mood to concede their advantage and might have gone even further ahead when McCulloch broke away but failed to

get his shot past the advancing goalkeeper.

Despite a late scare when Bolder saved well from Mabbut Wednesday oozed confidence and were rarely in trouble and it was fitting reward for a good volume of support who had made the long mid-week trek to London.

Team: Bolder, Sterland, Grant, Smith, Pickering, Mellor, Megson, Mirocevic, Bannister, McCulloch, Owen. Sub: Pearson.



Ante Mirocevic and Palace skipper Jim Cannon chase a through ball.

Saturday, 30th January 1982

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

DERBY COUNTY 3 WEDNESDAY 1

With the empty spaces round the Baseball Ground it was evident that most of the Wednesday supporters boycotted this match due to the inflated admission charge. Truth to tell those who stayed away were on a winner with the Owls throwing away points they should certainly have achieved.

Inside three minutes Wednesday might well have been two goals up. Mirocevic sent Bannister away but he failed to get the ball past the advancing 'keeper. Hardly had the home side overcome this scare when Bannister again found himself free but struck his shot wide.

Wednesday steadily kept up the pressure with Derby rarely in the picture although a overhead kick from Wilson went close. In the 28th minute Megson had the ball in the net but the referee indicated Bannister was offside although the player did not appear to be interfering with play.

Towards half-time play became very scrappy but just as it appeared that the first half would be blank Wednesday took the lead.

Mirocevic's low shot hit a defender spun away to Bannister and the Owls leading scorer made amends for his earlier misses by crashing his shot home.

Jeered off the field at the interval Derby quickly showed much more purpose when play restarted, and within six minutes they were on level terms. A needless free-kick was given away on the right and when Hector crossed the unchallenged Sheridan powered a header past Bolder.

It was now a different game with the Owls looking decidedly shaky and for a time it was all Derby. Bolder saved well from Hill and then came another close call for Wednesday when Wilson's header travelled only just over the bar.

Wednesday were struggling to survive against a side who though they had lifted themselves were by no means brilliant.

As the minutes ticked by it looked as if Wednesday might salvage something but then the Derby dangerman Wilson changed all that with two goals inside the final stages of the game. Some terrible marking gave him his first from close range and then soon after he ran on to a fine ball from the former international Hector to give Bolder no chance.

Team: Bolder, Sterland, Mellor, Pickering, Shirtliff, Smith, Megson, Mirocevic, Bannister, McCulloch, Owen.

Tuesday, 2nd February 1982

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

NORWICH CITY 2 WEDNESDAY 3

Carrow Road was no place for the faint hearted in this rousing battle which built up to a wonderful climax for Wednesday.

The Owls faced a lively home side in the opening phase of the game but combatted the threat with some fine defensive work.

Norwich were not to be denied however and although Peter Shirtliff got in a very determined tackle he had to watch in anguish as the ball broke kindly for O'Neill who marked his return to his former club with a well taken goal.

Wednesday rallied and caused some problems for the East Anglian side before delighting their substantial band of supporters by equalising just before half-time. Pickering's long ball cleared everyone but Gary Bannister showed commendable anticipation to latch on to the pass, leave the 'keeper stranded and score from the angle.

Boosted by this Wednesday stormed to the attack after the interval and Mellor nearly put them ahead. The Owls were showing great fight but in the 70th minute a piercing ball caught out their defence and Barham took the opportunity to put Norwich ahead again.

Wednesday continued to battle and back they came again in the 75th minute. Bannister swung over a corner which was only cleared as far as Peter Shirtliff who rocketed his shot past the Norwich goalkeeper.

Immediately Owen came on for Paul Shirtliff although the youngster had done well on his full league debut.

The match looked set for a draw when a terrible mistake by a Norwich defender gave the points to Wednesday. There appeared little danger when Watson played the ball back to his goalkeeper but the pass was woefully weak and Gary Bannister was quick off the mark to capitalise on the error, and nipped in to score his second goal of the game.



Tony Simmons fires in a shot during the ill-fated youth cup-tie at Bury.

A last minute scare for us was survived and then the final whistle to give Wednesday their sixth away success of the season and just reward for their competitiveness and commitment.

Team: Bolder, Sterland, Williamson, Pickering, Shirtliff (Peter), Smith, Megson, Shirtliff (Paul), Bannister, Pearson, Mellor. Sub: Owen.

RESERVE AND JUNIOR ROUND-UP

Following the big freeze-up there have been mixed results for both the Reserves and Juniors.

The Central League programme resumed at Blackpool where our well experienced Reserve side won a seven goal thriller 4-3. However our visit to Merseyside saw us at the wrong end of a 3-0 beating by Liverpool who figured the likes of Craig Johnston and David Fairclough among their scorers.

Activities at Junior level have been in Cup competition and our 2-0 defeat at Bury proved to be a nightmare for our youngster's progress in the F.A. Youth Cup. An own goal put the home side ahead and then Simon Mills and David Mossman were sent

Gary Bannister rounds Chris Woods to score his first goal at Norwich.

off by a referee whom from all reports created a disturbing impression. A goal during time added on finally sunk the Owls.

Happier news however in the Second Round of the Northern Intermediate League Cup when our lads put out the strong Hartlepool side 2-1, once again proving that when we field our strongest available side we are always likely to do well.

Teams and Results

Saturday, 16th January, 1982

CENTRAL LEAGUE

BLACKPOOL 3 WEDNESDAY 4

Cox, Blackhall, Oliver, Holton, Mellor, Taylor, Beaumont, Shirtliff (Paul), Hornsby, Leman, Curran. Sub: Mills. Scorers: Curran (2), Leman, Shirtliff.

Tuesday, 26th January, 1982

CENTRAL LEAGUE

LIVERPOOL 3 WEDNESDAY 0

Redfern, Blackhall, Williamson, Oliver, Holton, Taylor, Leman, Beaumont, Matthewson, Pearson, Simmons.

Thursday, 21st January, 1981

F.A. YOUTH CUP

BURY 2 WEDNESDAY 0

McShane, Wasden, Crossley, Beaumont, Adams, Riley, D'Arcy, Mills, Simmons, Pearson, Mossman.

Saturday, 23rd January, 1982

N.I. LEAGUE CUP

WEDNESDAY 2

HARTLEPOOL UNITED 1

Redfern, Oliver, Crossley, Beaumont, Matthewson, Wain, Riley, Mills, D'Arcy, Pearson, Simmons. Scorers: Mills, Pearson.



STATISTICS

1981

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

AUG. 29 Blackburn Rovers 1-0 15,000 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch Curran¹ Sterland

SEPT. 5 Crystal Palace 1-0 18,476 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister¹ McCulloch Curran Mellor

8 Rotherham U. 2-0 26,826 Bolder Blackhall **Will'son**¹ Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister **McCullo**¹ Curran Mellor

12 Luton Town 3-0 12,131 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor **Megson**¹ Mirocevic^{*} Bannister¹ McCulloch Curran Leman

19 Derby County 1-1 23,764 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor **Megson**¹ Mirocevic^{*} Bannister McCulloch Curran Mellor^{*}

22 Barnsley 0-1 28,870 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch Curran Mellor^{*}

26 Grimsby Town 1-0 13,110 Bolder Blackhall Grant Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch **Curran**¹ Hornsby

OCT. 3 Wrexham 0-3 18,526 Bolder Blackhall Grant Smith Shirtliff Taylor^{*} Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch Curran Mellor^{*}

7 Blackburn R.(LC2) 1-1 7,900 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor¹ Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch Curran^{*} Mellor^{*}

10 Cardiff City 2-1 15,621 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor¹ Megson Mirocevic^{*} Bannister **McCullo**¹ Curran Pearson^{*}

17 Charlton Athletic 0-3 8,258 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic^{*} Bannister McCulloch Curran Pearson^{*}

24 Oldham Athletic 2-1 17,839 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith **Shirtliff**¹ Taylor Megson Sterland^{*} **Bannister**¹ McCulloch Curran Pearson^{*}

27 Blackburn R.(LC2) 1-2 13,099 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor^{*} Megson Sterland **Bannister**¹ McCulloch Curran Pearson^{*}

31 Leicester City 0-0 19,125 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister McCulloch Curran Leman

NOV. 7 Orient 0-3 5,179 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Mirocevic Bannister Pearson Curran Matth'son

14 O.P.R. 1-3 17,024 Bolder Sterland Williamson Matth'son Pickering Taylor Megson Mirocevic^{*} **Bannister**¹ McCulloch Curran Pearson^{*}

21 Cambridge United 2-1 6,461 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Pickering Taylor Megson King **Bannister**¹ **McCullo**¹ Curran Matth'son

24 Barnsley 2-2 30,621 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Pickering Taylor¹ Megson King **Bannister** **McCullo**¹^{*} Curran Mellor^{*}

28 Watford 3-1 15,990 Bolder Blackhall Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor¹ Megson Leman **Bannister**¹ **Pearson**¹^{*} Curran Mellor^{*}

DEC. 5 Chelsea 1-2 17,033 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor Megson Leman **Bannister**¹ McCulloch^{*} Curran Hornsby^{*}

JAN. 2 Coventry (FAC3) 1-3 14,213 Bolder Sterland Williamson Smith Shirtliff Taylor^{*} Megson Mirocevic Bannister **McCullo**¹ Curran Mellor^{*}

1982 16 Blackburn Rovers 2-2 13,120 Bolder Sterland Grant Pickering Shirtliff Smith **Megson**¹ Mirocevic Bannister **McCullo**¹ Owen Pearson

19 Crystal Palace 2-1 8,289 Bolder Sterland Grant^{*} Smith **Pickering**¹ Mellor Megson Mirocevic **Bannister**¹ McCulloch Owen Taylor

30 Derby County 1-3 11,215 Bolder Sterland Mellor Pickering Shirtliff Smith Megson Mirocevic **Bannister**¹ McCulloch Owen

FEB. 3 Norwich City 3-2 15,767 Bolder Sterland Williamson **Shirtliff**¹ Pickering Smith Megson Shirtliff^{*} Mellor Owen^{*}

6 Luton Town 3-3 18,012 Bolder Sterland Williamson Shirtliff Pickering Smith Megson Shirtliff Bannister¹ **Pearson**² Mellor^{*}

13 Wrexham 1-0 4,907 Bolder Sterland Williamson Shirtliff Pickering Smith Megson Shirtliff Bannister¹ Pearson Mellor Curran

16 Bolton Wanderers 16 Grimsby Town 20 Newcastle United 24 Cardiff City

MAR. 2 Shrewsbury T. 6 Charlton Athletic 13 Oldham Athletic 20 Leicester City 27 Orient

APR. 3 O.P.R. 10 Shrewsbury Town 12 Newcastle United 17 Cambridge United 24 Watford

MAY 1 Chelsea 4 Rotherham United 8 Bolton Wanderers 15 Norwich City



Gary Bannister hammers the ball past Luton's keeper Judge for our third goal.

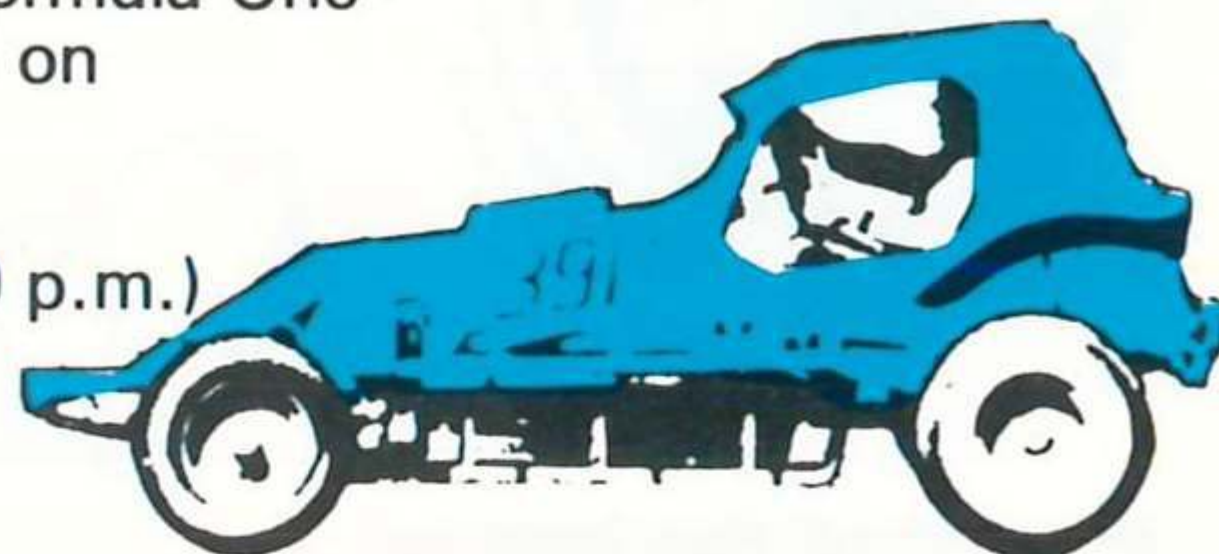
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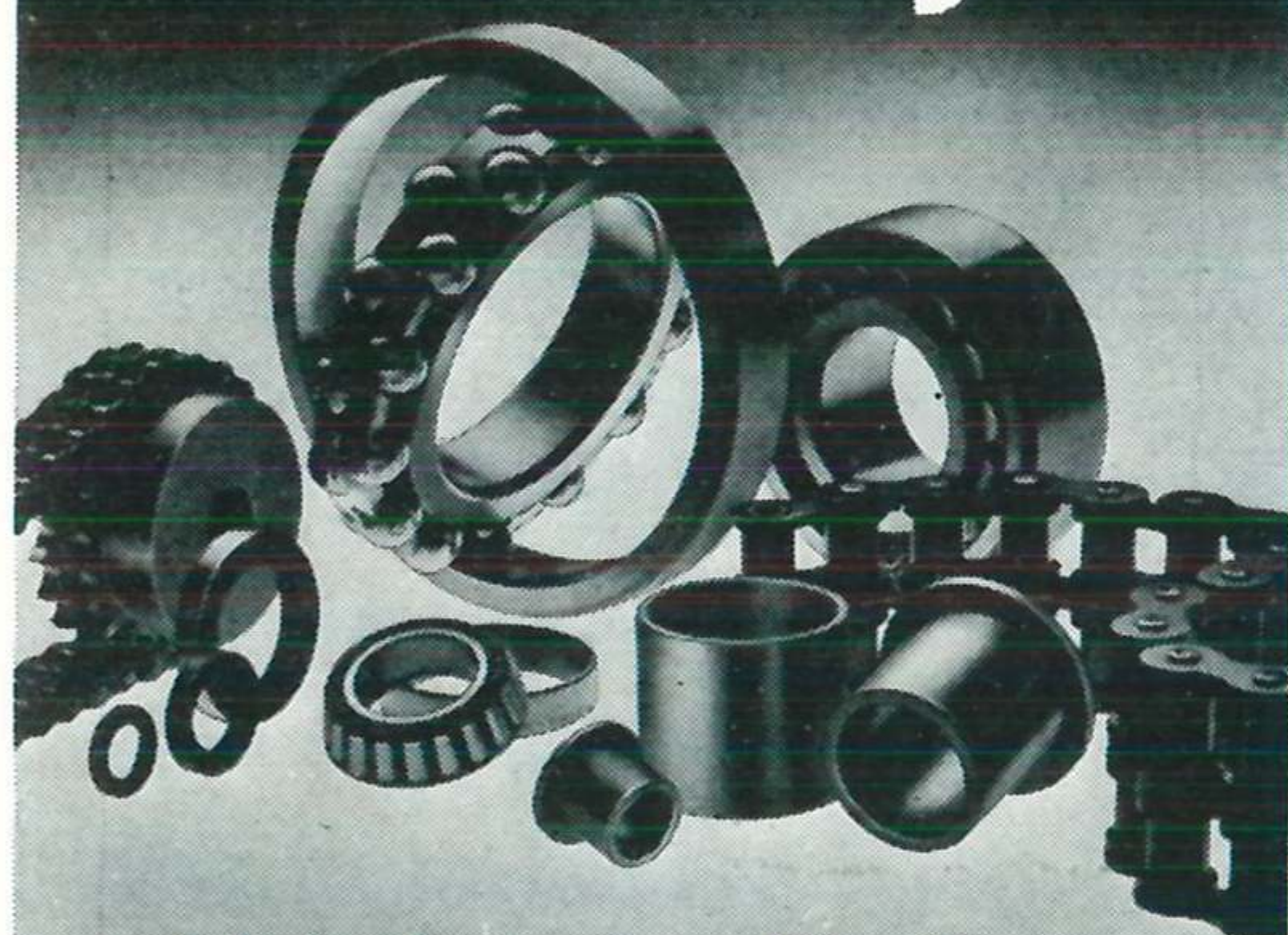
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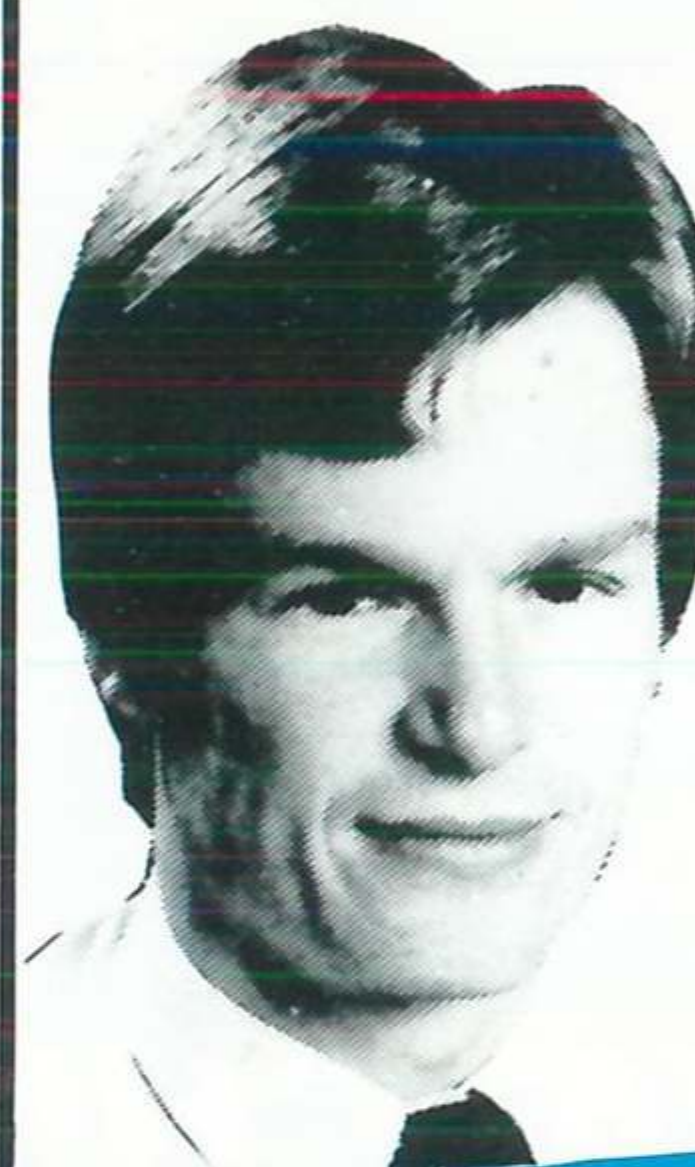
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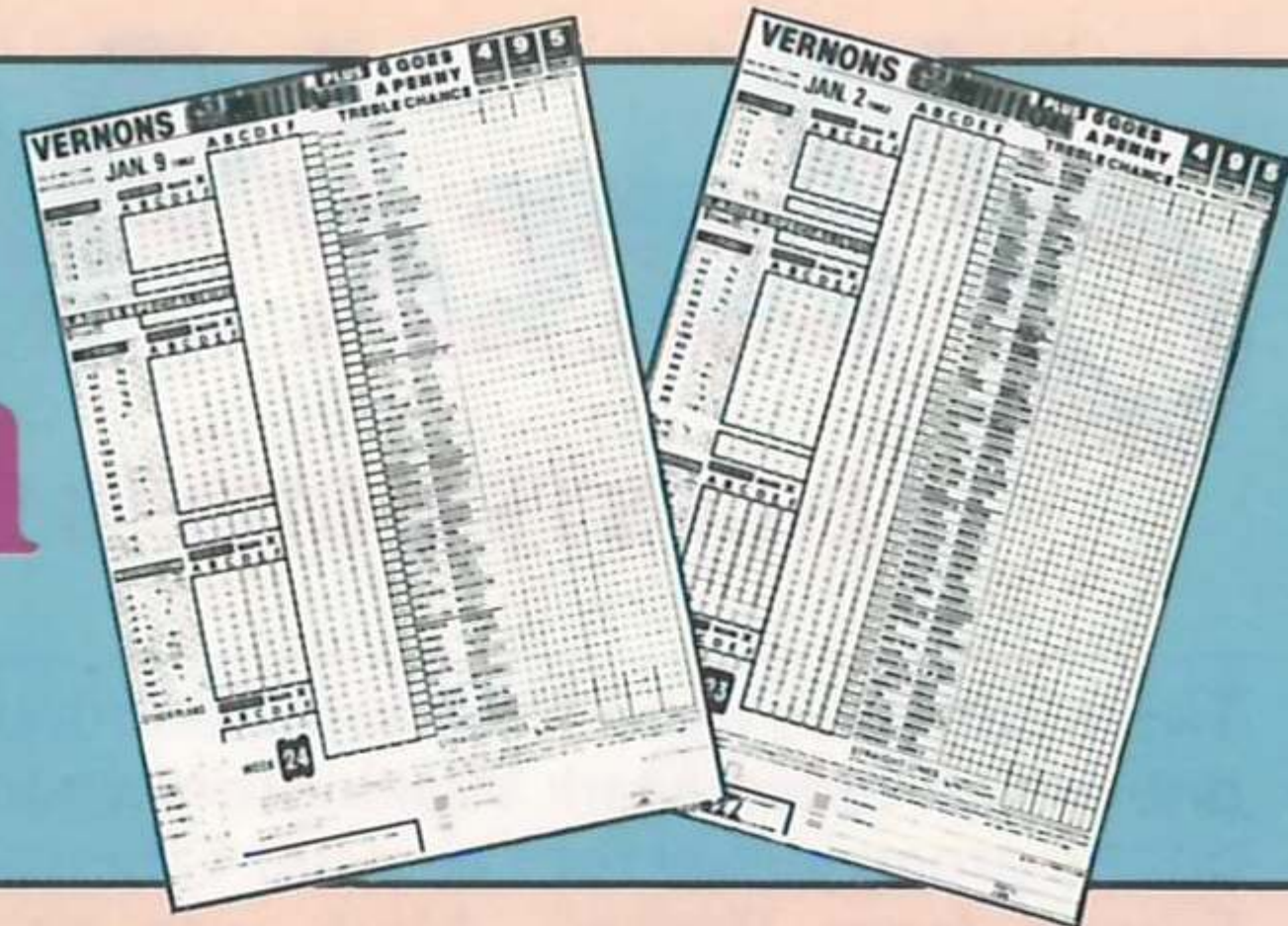
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**THE BUILDERS OF
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It's time for The League to Perm their own Divi!



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE should and could become masters of their own destiny if they followed the advice of Stoke City's Commercial Manager Dudley Kernick.

The former Torquay United player acknowledges that "Lotteries have been the saving grace for all League clubs in recent years" but is conscious that this form of fund raising can not be relied upon as a long term means of income and anyway it is only scratching the surface.

"Takings are down at most clubs now," he points out, "because of the recession and the fact that the novelty of the whole thing is beginning to wear thin. We are now into a phase where the national papers are wageing their own Bingo war and this must also affect our sales. That might last for six months or a year who can tell, although in the long term we will come out on top.

"The papers are helping to spread the gospel and reach people who have not previously become involved in lotteries, so when they do cease their circulation battle we might benefit from the spin-off.

"Football clubs are in a strong position in this respect. We killed off the Local Authority lotteries up and down the country and we can handle this competition but in all honesty I think we should be looking much further ahead."

The Stoke City financial wizard is thinking more in terms of the Football League as a corporate body working in harmony together. The 92 League Clubs as one package is worth a fortune in commercial terms and Mr. Kernick feels it is about time the clubs stopped wending their own ways and got down to earning big money as a single organisation.

The bigger the resources the bigger the prizes and therefore the more attractive the product to the potential customer. But it is not the instant lottery ticket that Dudley Kernick sees as the salvation to soccer's financial ills, but the biggest money spinner of them all; the Football Pools.

TAKE OVER

"The first thing we should think about is banning Littlewoods, Vernons and the rest from using our fixtures. They are copyright so there is no problem in doing that," enthuses Kernick.

"Then we should run our own football pools, not just within the confines of our clubs but nationally on the same grand scale as they are operated today. We would need a whole new industry to cope with it, but we have the resources to do this and the massive profits would be ploughed back into the game instead of into commercial enterprises which have been milking our sport all these years."

At the moment each League club benefits by £30,000 a year for the use of their fixtures on the pools coupons but this is a mere tear drop in the ocean of profits accumulated by the company's making up the Pools Promoters Association.

"They make millions" claims Kernick "and if we as the Football League ran our own we could make anything up to £50 million a year."

Split between 92 clubs that is well worth having. No doubt the Pools Promoters would offer alternative attractions to keep their punters, but nothing could compete with the current package. The fact that the clubs used on the pools coupons are national news every day of the week, the results and score flashes are beamed to the nation almost as they happen through the media of radio and television all adds spice to the armchair punters afternoon. . . The Football League fixture list is a goldmine and it is about time the game benefited from this itself.

PARASITES

One might ask what would happen to the clubs commercial managers if this came about? "We would be free to

concentrate on what we should be doing," claims Dudley "and that is selling the game of football.

"We should be marketing the product, helping to get more fans through the turnstiles and trying to utilise our stadia for other promotions. We rely too much on the media giving us free publicity when we should be out selling the game ourselves.

"For instance if we were home to Southampton then I would be out around Stoke selling Kevin Keegan and trying to encourage our public to come and see the captain of England. Things like that."

Dudley Kernick is respected as one of the leaders in his profession and his thoughts on taking over the Pools are well worth considering. He certainly offers a practical solution to a business which is quickly sliding towards bankruptcy while parasites enjoy the profits at football's expense.

The Pools Promoters Association currently enjoy a turnover of some £200 million a year. There is no strict control on the size of the prize money, 40% of which is syphoned off by the Government. At the moment £4 million and that represents just a little over 2%, comes back to the game that is generating the money.

Does that seem fair? Is it right that while clubs big and small struggle for survival the PPA milk the game of millions? The present agreement expires in 1986 so now is the time for the League's administrators to plan their winning line. The 92 clubs must realise their potential as a single commercial unit. . . let's hope they perm it right while they are all still in existence!

Dudley Kernick



Mark Wallington

LEICESTER CITY'S NUMBER ONE

There can have been few more daunting tasks than the one which faced Mark Wallington when he first pulled on the green jersey for Leicester City way back in 1972. Signed from Walsall, Mark was to follow in the footsteps of two of the greatest goalkeepers in the world, Gordon Banks and Peter Shilton who had established a tradition at Filbert Street.

Naturally under the microscope of public opinion as well as professional criticism the young custodian from the backwoods of Lincolnshire tackled the task bravely and confidently and soon won the fans over although it must be admitted that there were some tricky periods in those formative years.

But Mark remained his own man and slowly improved until today he ranks in the top four goalkeepers in the Football League. He recalls: "People used to ask me if I had moulded my game on Shilts (Shilton). Well he taught me no end and I will be forever grateful, but I still stood on my own two feet as Mark Wallington the goalkeeper, and the crowds appreciated that.

"They know there couldn't be another Shilton so why try and emulate him. Emulate his ambition and his good points but adapt them to your own style, that was my philosophy. There are things Peter does that I could never copy just as there are things I do that he couldn't possibly attempt."

Mark also gains invaluable help from Leicester manager Jock Wallace, himself a former goalkeeper of stature and says; "It is nice having a boss who understands my problems although he has his own views and I have mine. But he helps me tidy up my technique and is able to point out things I might not have noticed. He gives me advice to think about — I might discard it although I always consider it first.

SKIPPER

"I consider any bit of advice I can get, be it from someone on the terraces or the boss. I would be a fool not to. It is what you filter from those opinions and make the most of that matters and the big thing is that at the end of it all you must play your own game."

Although not capturing the attention of the media in quite the same way as his two illustrious predecessors, Mark Wallington has been an influential force on the Leicester team for many seasons now, a quality recognised by Jock Wallace who appointed him club captain.

It is an honour which Mark treasures and enthuses "it involves more than just leading the team on the field. Being club captain embraces liaison with the fans, directors, business people in the city and of course your own players... it is everything that I thoroughly enjoy because I like meeting people.

"On the field obviously is where it comes down to the nitty gritty but most organised sides — and we are an organised team — have planned the game before they take the field, with counter moves arranged for various situations should they arise, so it is not too difficult.

"People have suggested to me that communication

with the team must be awkward from goal but it isn't if you have a good understanding with your centre-half. It is the old adage if you like, of eleven skippers on the field, and luckily we have that attitude, with everybody geeing each other up. There are no superstars here we are all equal once we have pulled the Leicester shirt on. We are a team striving for the same ends. So that makes it easier for me although I must admit I have found difficulty in getting messages through at times when we have played in front of big gates of 40,000 or more. But probably an outfield player would have the same problems under those circumstances... I don't know.

"But I honestly think, and I say this sincerely, that it worked quite well last season and I hope it will work a lot better this season and even better next season."

DETACHED VIEW

Of course there is more to leading a team than just passing on tactical instructions so how does Mark influence his team mates when things are not going as well as they should?

"It is down to pure vocal encouragement and that is the responsibility of us all. From my point of view I have to make the best of situations that develop like a player needing treatment. That gives me the chance to come out and chat to the fullbacks, shout at the central defenders and midfield men and through to the strikers.

"It is a matter of being enthusiastic. When I took the skipper's armband I was determined to lead by example. It is a principle that is difficult to maintain but I thought 'come on I have probably been made skipper because I am in form and a reliable player, but if that goes then half the captaincy has gone, so whatever happens I must not let it affect my game.' And fortunately it has not so far."

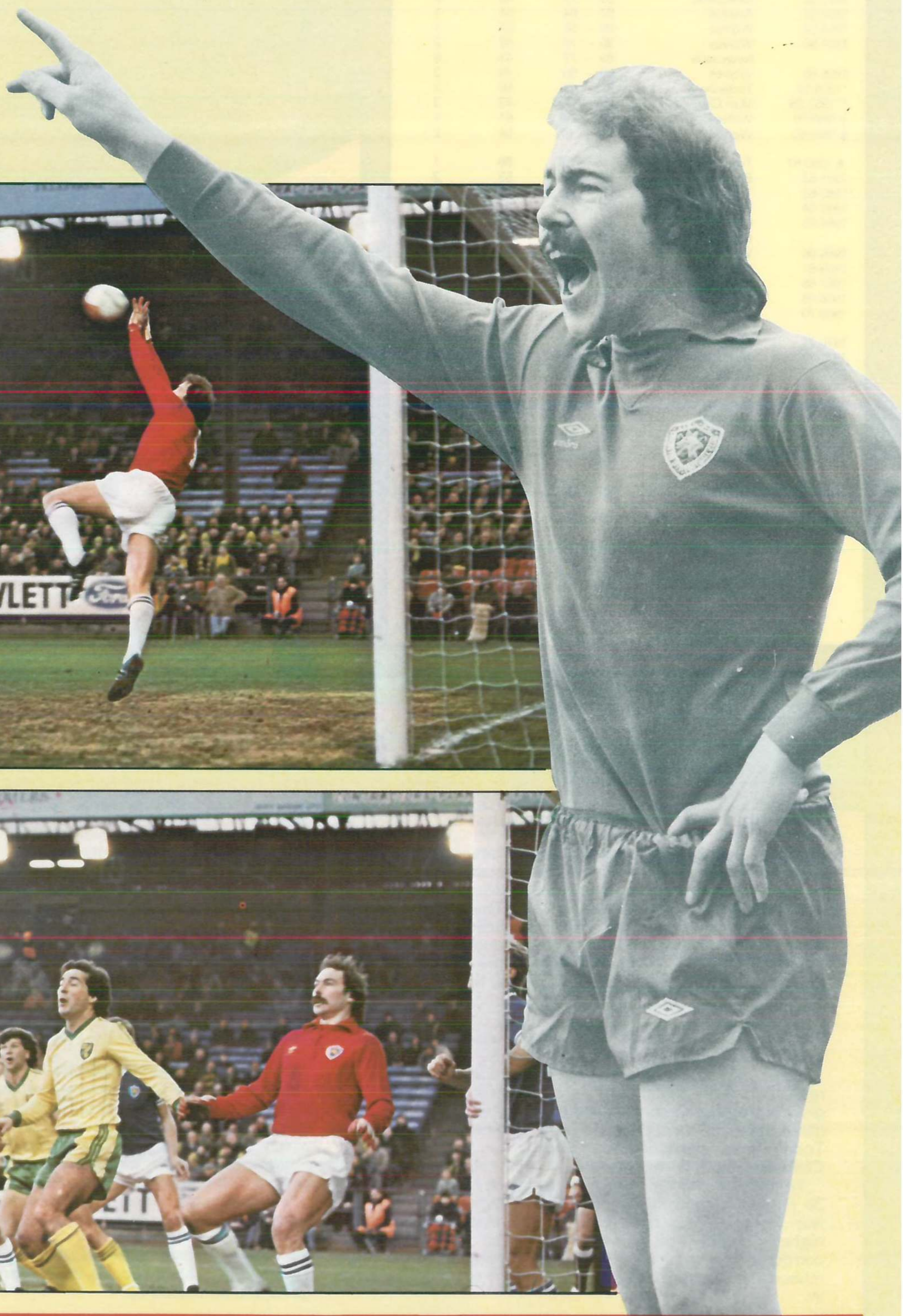
Obviously Mark has to be more aware of what the other players are doing: "Absolutely, but it is a natural thing for a 'keeper to do anyway" he points out keenly. "Goalkeepers get such a detached view of things. We are not in the hub bub of a midfield battle so we are able to sit back and analyse why things are happening or not happening whichever the case. We don't have to pick people up on runs and things like that so we have a little bit of time to take in the play.

"It is something that I have always done, so becoming captain was just a natural progression really and I am proud that I have been given the opportunity."

Mark Wallington has proved a good choice. Not only is he a fine custodian but he is a good and inspiring organiser. He is human too, with a romantic Roy of the Rovers concept of the perfect game which he says "Ideally we would win every game by three of four goals with me having to make half-a-dozen great saves to keep us in the game... I am no different to anyone else, I look at the papers and hope that Mark Wallington has got a good mention, although I must admit that I am willing to sacrifice all that for three points."

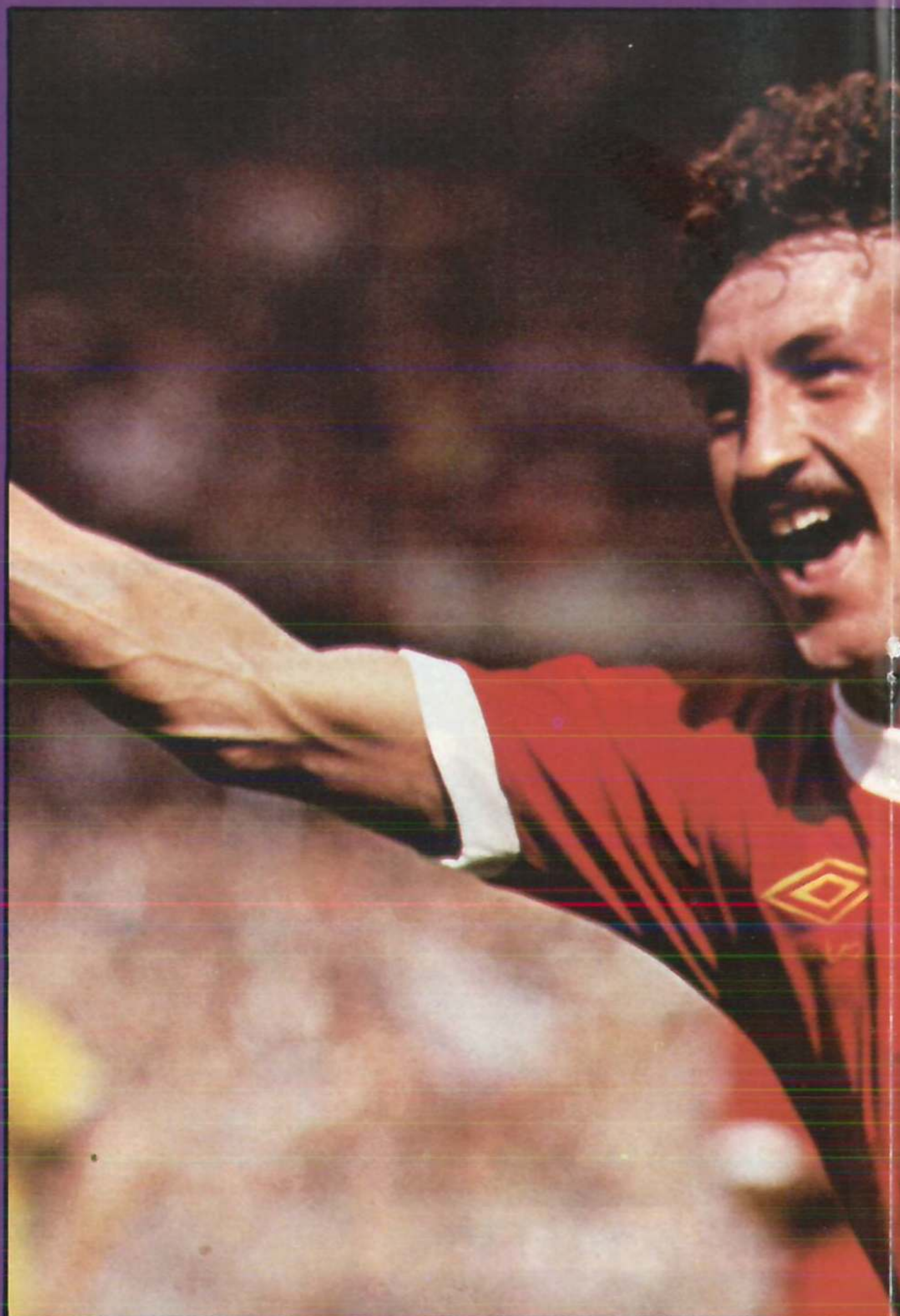
HIGHEST SCORING FIRST TEAMS

Team	Goals	Points
1. [illegible]	10	18
2. [illegible]	8	15
3. [illegible]	7	14
4. [illegible]	6	12
5. [illegible]	5	10
6. [illegible]	4	8
7. [illegible]	3	6
8. [illegible]	2	4
9. [illegible]	1	2
10. [illegible]	0	0



HIGHEST SCORING FIRST DIVISION TEAMS

Season	Club	Goals		Pts	Lge Pos
		F	A		
1946-47	Wolves	98	56	56	3
1947-48	Wolves	83	70	47	5
1948-49	Portsmouth	84	42	58	1
1949-50	Sunderland	83	62	52	3
1950-51	Tottenham	82	44	60	1
1951-52	Newcastle	98	73	45	8
1952-53	Arsenal	97	64	54	1
1954-54	Wolves	96	56	57	1
1954-55	Wolves	89	70	48	2
	Newcastle	89	77	43	8
1955-56	Wolves	89	65	49	3
*1956-57	Tottenham	104	56	56	2
**1957-58	Man City	104	100	49	3
†1958-59	Wolves	110	49	61	1
‡1959-60	Wolves	106	67	54	2
★ 1960-61	Tottenham	115	55	66	1
1961-62	Burnley	101	67	53	2
1962-63	Tottenham	111	62	55	2
1963-64	Tottenham	97	81	51	4
1964-65	Man Utd	89	39	61	1
	Chelsea	89	54	56	3
1965-66	WBA	91	69	50	6
1966-67	Man Utd	84	45	60	1
1967-68	Man Utd	89	55	56	2
1968-69	Everton	77	36	57	3
1969-70	Leeds	84	49	57	2
1970-71	Leeds	72	30	64	2
1971-72	Man City	77	45	57	4
1972-73	Liverpool	72	42	60	1
1973-74	Ipswich	67	58	47	4
1974-75	Burnley	68	67	45	10
1975-76	Man Utd	68	42	56	3
1976-77	Man Utd	71	62	47	6
1977-78	Everton	76	45	55	3
1978-79	Liverpool	85	16	68	1 won Ch by 8pts
1979-80	Liverpool	81	30	60	1
1980-81	Ipswich	77	43	56	2
	*Man Utd	103	54	64	1st
	** { Wolves	103	47	61	1st
	{ PNE	100	51	59	2nd
	†Man Utd	103	66	55	2nd
	‡Man Utd	102	80	45	7th
	★ { Wolves	103	75	57	3rd
	{ Burnley	102	77	51	4th



...football has be

REPORT BY JOHN NOLAN

Through the medium of television our sitting rooms are bombarded every week-end with goals galore as the magic eye not only records the golden moments but beams back action replays and slow motion re-runs. The action is seen from this angle, from that angle, the build-up and final execution is analysed, dissected and discussed.

There is Goal of the Month, Goal of the Season, goals from European and international matches, the whole game is compressed and distorted by technology into a succession of shots, screaming, looping or creeping into the net. It is an extravaganza of make believe an escape from the stark reality of the modern game.

Goals we all agree are a vital ingredient being the realisation of the object of the whole contest, the crowning glory to a weeks hard sweat and training, but in the modern game they are becoming an ever diminishing statistic. Today goals conceded are often more relative to a Championship title than the total number scored.

To underline this point it is interesting to note that of the 35 Football League Championships completed since the war, only 11 have been won by the team scoring the highest number of goals in the First Division that corresponding season, the majority of the sides having missed the jackpot because they have let too many goals in.

A quick glance at the statistics will clearly indicate that this point has been fully appreciated by management and coaches over the past ten years. Contrary to popular opinion it was the middle fifties early sixties which produced the goal boom, although in fairness it must be said, they also conceded many goals in the process. In contrast the seventies provided a comparative goal famine, the highest scoring team in season 1973-74 Ipswich Town for instance, hitting just 67. Meanwhile the goals against column remained very low, Liverpool letting in only 16 goals in their Championship winning season of 1978-79, the best defensive record in the history of the League.

EMPHASIS ON ATTACK

Alas the strategy to concentrate on stopping goals rather than creating them has inhibited the game as a spectator attraction, a point recognised by one national newspaper which has put up £50,000 for distribution among local schools and youth organisations by the first Football League club in the top flight to score 100 goals in a season.

It would seem that their money is pretty safe, for the League ton has proved a formidable target even before the days of massed defences. Yet incredibly it was smashed not less than 14 times between 1956-57 and 1962-63 when Tottenham finished second to Everton having scored 111 goals and conceded 62.



LEADING SCORERS FIRST DIVISION

Season			
1946-47	D. Wescott	(Wolves)	37
1947-48	R. Rooke	(Arsenal)	33
1948-49	W. Moir	(Bolton)	25
1949-50	D. Davies	(Sunderland)	25
1950-51	Stan Mortenson	(Blackpool)	30
1951-52	G. Robledo	(Newcastle)	33
1952-53	C. Wayman	(Preston)	24
1953-54	J. Nicholls	(WBA)	29
	J. Glazzard	(Huddersfield)	29
1954-55	Ronnie Allen	(WBA)	27
1955-56	Nat Lofthouse	(Bolton)	33
1956-57	John Charles	(Leeds)	38
1957-58	Bobby Smith	(Spurs)	36
1958-59	Bobby Smith	(Spurs)	32
	Jimmy Greaves	(Chelsea)	32
1959-60	Dennis Vidlet	(Man Utd)	32
1960-61	Jimmy Greaves	(Chelsea)	41
1961-62	Ray Crawford	(Ipswich)	33
	Derek Kevan	(WBA)	33
1962-63	Jimmy Greaves	(Chelsea)	41
1961-62	Ray Crawford	(Ipswich)	33
	Derek Kevan	(WBA)	33
1962-63	Jimmy Greaves	(Spurs)	37
1963-64	Jimmy Greaves	(Spurs)	35
1964-65	Jimmy Greaves	(Spurs)	29
	Andy McEvoy	(Blackburn)	29
1965-66	Roger Hunt	(Liverpool)	30
1966-67	Ron Davies	(Southampton)	37
1967-68	Ron Davies	(Southampton)	28
	George Best	(Man Utd)	28
1968-69	Jimmy Greaves	(Spurs)	27
1969-70	Jeff Astle	(WBA)	25
1970-71	Alistaire Brown	(WBA)	28
1971-72	Francis Lee	(Man City)	33
1972-73	Bryan Robson	(West Ham)	28
1973-74	Miker Channon	(Southampton)	21
1974-75	Malcolm Macdonald	(Newcastle)	21
1975-76	Ted McDougall	(Norwich)	23
1976-77	Malcolm Macdonald	(Arsenal)	25
	Andy Gray	(A. Villa)	25
1977-78	Bob Latchford	(Everton)	30
1978-79	Frank Worthington	(Bolton)	24
1979-80	Phil Boyer	(Southampton)	23
1980-81	Steve Archibald	(Spurs)	20
	Peter Withe	(A. Villa)	20

come goal shy...

One can only conclude that the tactical approach to the game then was such that the emphasis was placed on attack. That was certainly the philosophy of Stan Cullis whose Wolves side broke the ton in four consecutive seasons amassing a total of 422 goals. He used to tell his strikers that he did not want to see them in their own half of the field. Today our forwards are saddled with defensive duties as well as their own, no wonder they do not score so freely.

The emphasis is clearly defined in the scoring averages of the respective decades. In the 1940s the highest teams averaged 87 goals a season. The fifties then produced an avalanche of goals with the ton being smashed quite regularly and the final average rising to 97.5 goals a season.

The sixties also provided a good return with Tottenham leading the way with 115 goals in the season of 1960-61 and the average working out at 93.8. However already the decline was becoming evident following England's World Cup triumph of 1966. The following season Manchester United finished as the top scoring team with 84 goals... the lowest haul for 18 years, and by 1969 the figure had slumped to 77 as the era of iron cast defences began to emerge.

LOW YIELD

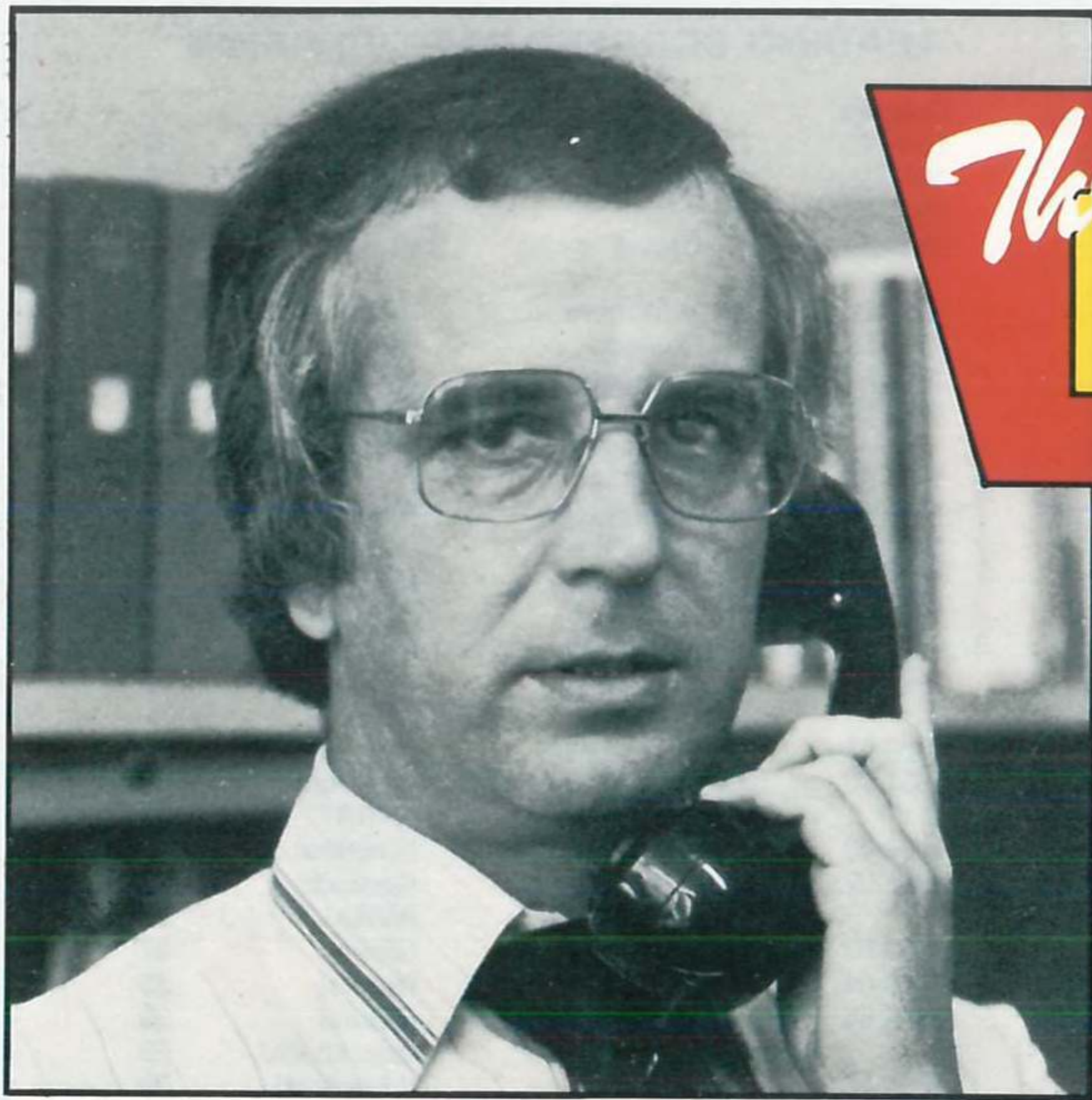
Only twice in the seventies did the leading club net more

than 80 goals in a season — in 1978 and '79 when Liverpool won consecutive Championships with 85 and 81 goals respectively and last season the trend did not alter with Ipswich topping the poll with 77 goals.

The same overall pattern is also discernable from the solo goalscoring records. The leading individual sharpshooters of their day have maintained a pretty constant flow up to the seventies. The leading marksman in the forties averaged 30 goals each, while in the fifties the average was pushed up to 31.4 and in the sixties to 32.3, thanks mainly to the incomparable Jimmy Greaves who notched 41 in 1960-61, an individual post-War record.

Then comes the crunch with the average for the seventies plummeting to a disappointing 25.6 and last season when we entered the eighties Steve Archibald (Tottenham) and Peter Withe (Aston Villa) led the pack with only 20 goals each.

The decline I am sure is not due to a scarcity of players capable of scoring goals but more to a system which is based on fear, the fear of losing. One or two sides have broken away from that rigid concept thank goodness and gained success. Teams like Tottenham and Southampton who allow their talented players freedom to express themselves. If one of them could clinch the Championship then others might follow their style and once more put the goals back into live English football...



The PAUL PARISH page

WHEN IS WINTER?

The national preoccupation with the weather has done very little to solve the inevitable problems that follow severe climatic conditions.

The railways struggle to maintain some semblance of a schedule, the roads become lethal strips of slush and ice . . . and the pools panel are called upon to

adjudicate on what might have happened had there been any football.

It's not strictly true to say that nothing has changed. At least a few Football League clubs have taken steps to beat the elements by installing a variety of pitch warming devices, or, like Queens Park Rangers, installed a synthetic surface that can be easily cleared and does not suffer from frostbite!

When the arctic weather swept across the country in mid-December there were the expected cries for action. More clubs, certainly those in the First Division, should invest in undersoil heating. That was one opinion.

Let's have a midwinter break, others argued.

Familiar cries but still offering highly improbable solutions to the annual problem.

Certainly most continental countries do have a mid-season shutdown but across Europe the weather is more predictable. In England that is not the case.

Indeed the December snow was a real surprise and heavy falls such as we endured in the freezing build up to Christmas had come much earlier than usual. Generally, if there is to be any significant snowfall, it is January and February when we would expect to be hit. Even later, perhaps, for I can recall snow falling at Easter-time on more than one occasion.

So, when do you have your winter break. Stop football in December and you could have bad weather in January — or vice-versa.

So a midwinter shutdown would seem to be



impracticable. Though it should be added that during the height of the December snowstorms it was suggested with some seriousness that the Saturday preceding Christmas should be taken off the football calendar in future.

That had nothing to do with the weather but was a sensible suggestion to combat a Saturday which invariably provides the lowest attendances of the soccer season.

The argument that more clubs should take stronger measures to combat severe cold weather is, on paper at least, a more reasonable suggestion.

There are those who feel that the clubs should be compelled to install undersoil heating at a cost which would be considerably less than the average transfer fee these days.

Yet the clubs who have not taken the steps will argue the point. Even if a pitch is made playable by undersoil heating it doesn't follow that the iced-up terraces will be safe for the paying customer. And, even if it is safe to stand and watch, the cold weather will keep some fans around the warmth of their own homes.

Even undersoil heating doesn't work overtime as Arsenal, pioneers in this particular development, found during December when they were forced to postpone matches.

But, as always, it is the small clubs, who cannot afford to think about undersoil heating, who are made to suffer the most.

While the big clubs can stand — perhaps not afford — to lose revenue through the turnstiles the little clubs are badly hit by postponements.

The bad weather might stop the football, but the players the coaching staff and the administration departments still need to be paid. And when you are operating in the lower divisions the necessary cashflow comes from gate money.

No football. . . no receipts. And with many clubs feeling the chronic effects of the recession the situation can become critical for some teams.

It was made worse this year when the two fixtures over the Christmas Bank Holiday period were savaged by the weather. These days, above all, are important to clubs as the occasions when they expected some of the biggest crowds of the season.

Certainly those clubs that did manage to prepare a suitable playing surface over Christmas were rewarded with decent holiday crowds — which, in itself, was

another argument for not having a winter break during December.

Queens Park Rangers' OmniTurf, as expected, has coped with the bad weather. It took an army of prisoners from nearby Wormwood Scrubs prison to clear the pitch for the Christmas game with Chelsea but the pitch itself played as well as it ever does.

There really is no happy solution to the weather problems. And meanwhile the traditionalists in the game, believe that it is all part and parcel of an English soccer season.

To be champions, it seems, successful sides must cope with the late summer lushness of freshly prepared turf, the ankle deep mud of winter rain, the dry and dusty end-of-season pitches, and, of course, the hazards of ice and snow.

For the time being nothing is likely to change.

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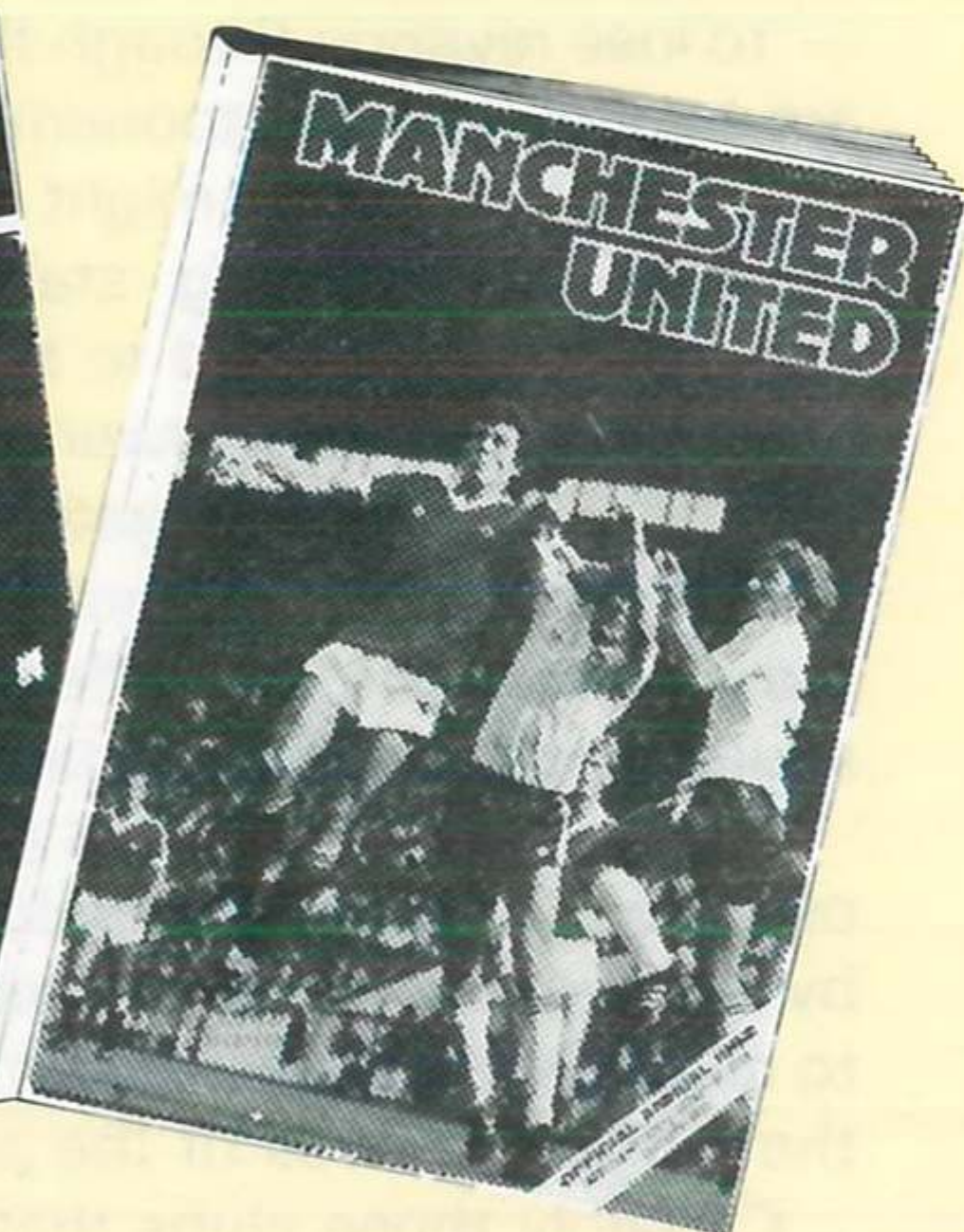
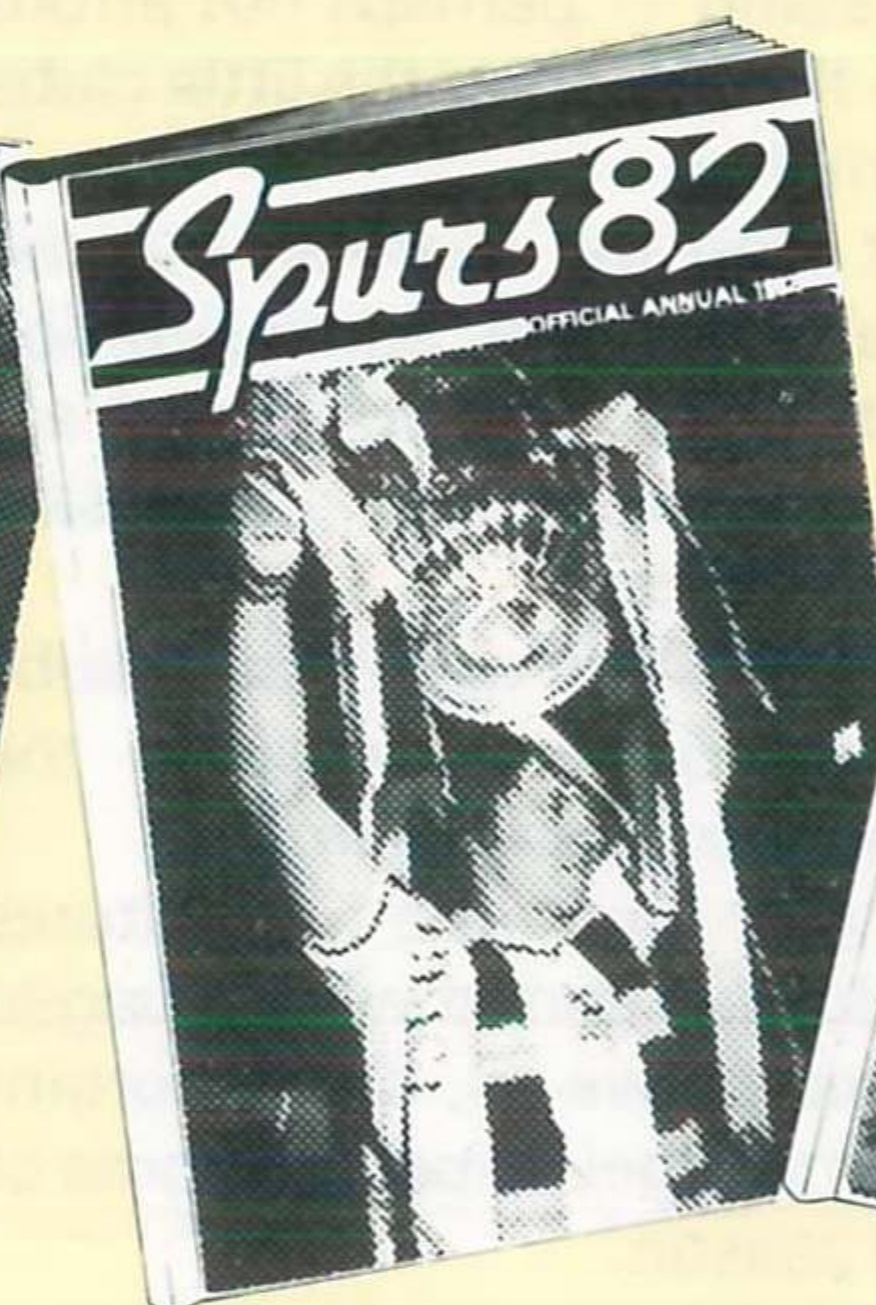
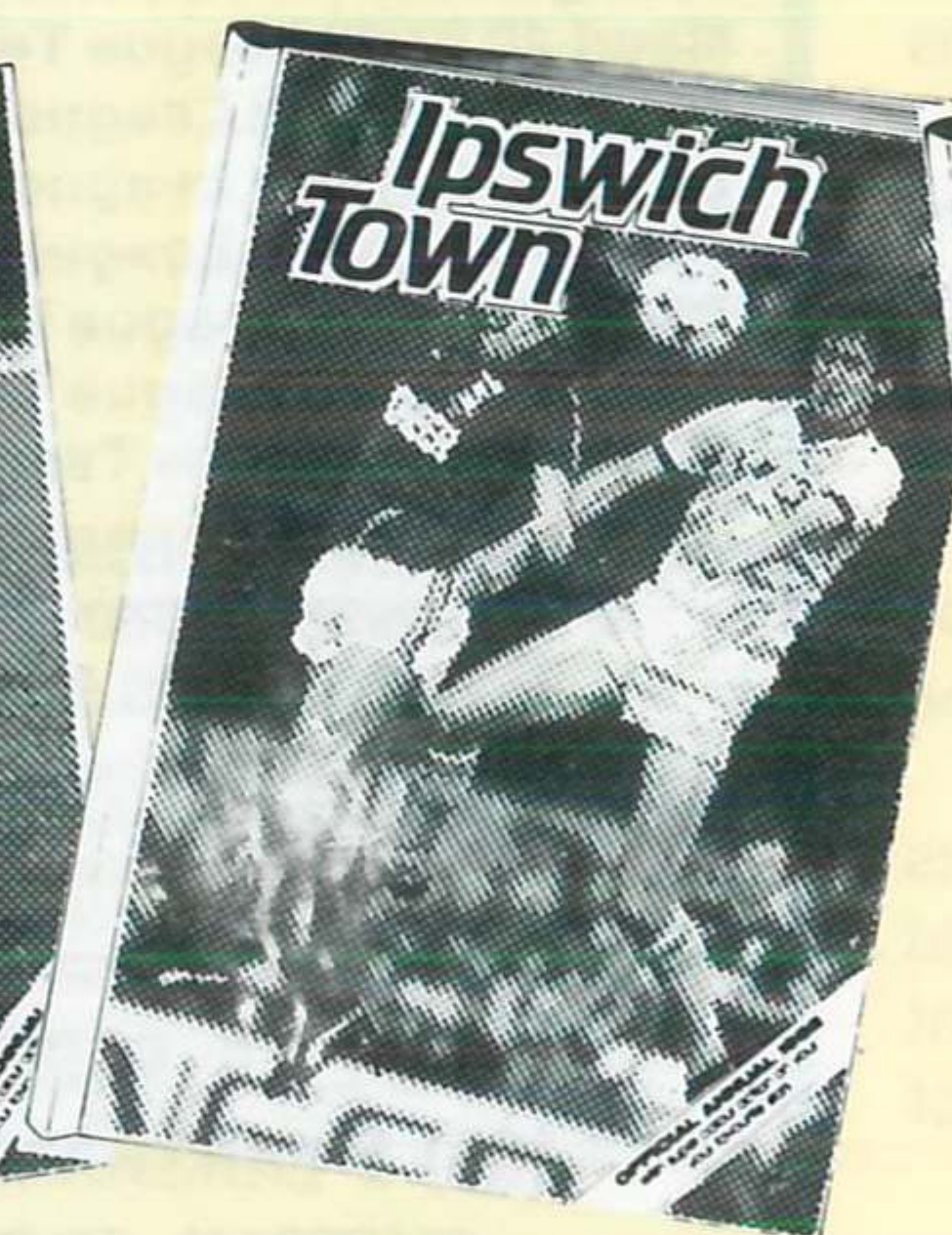
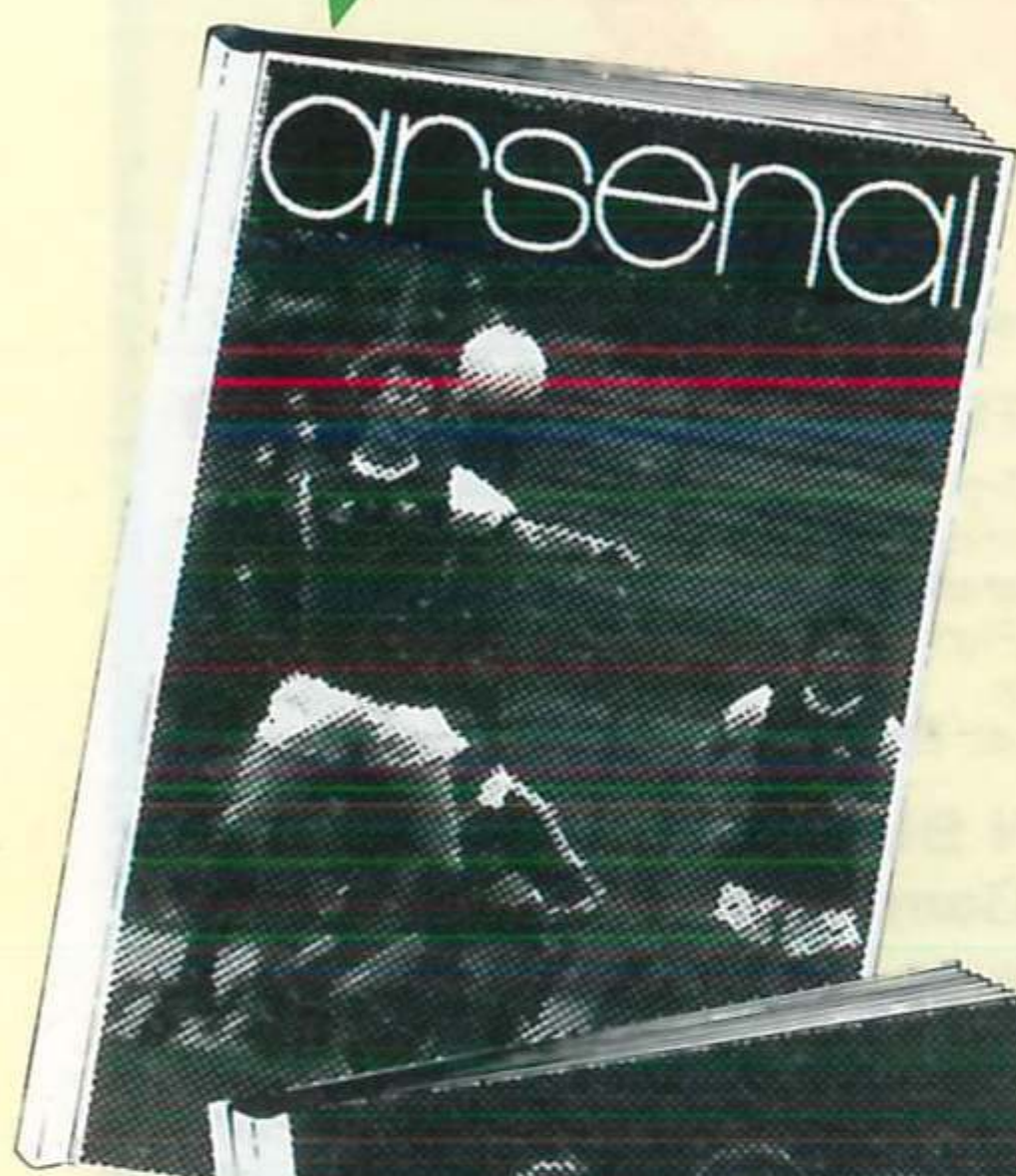
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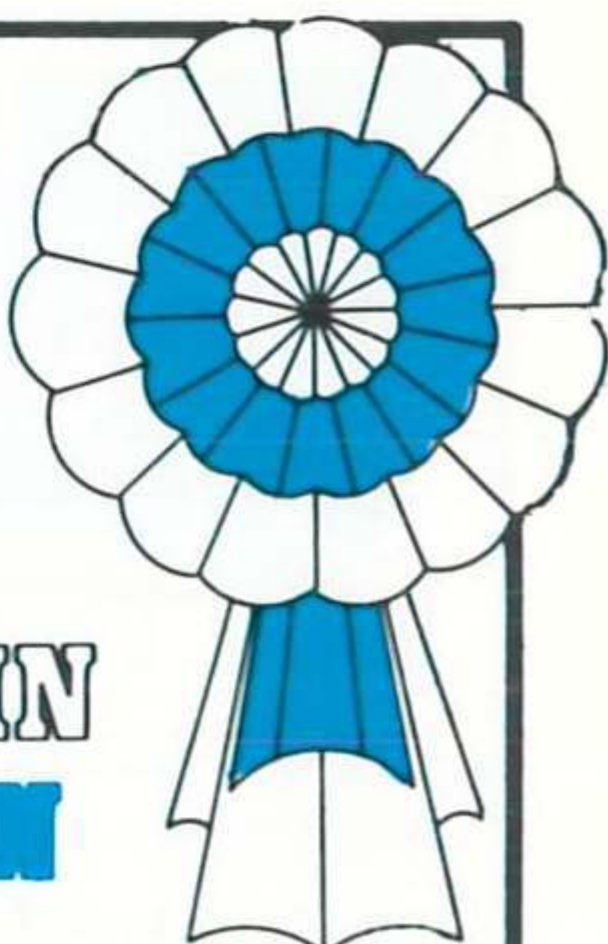
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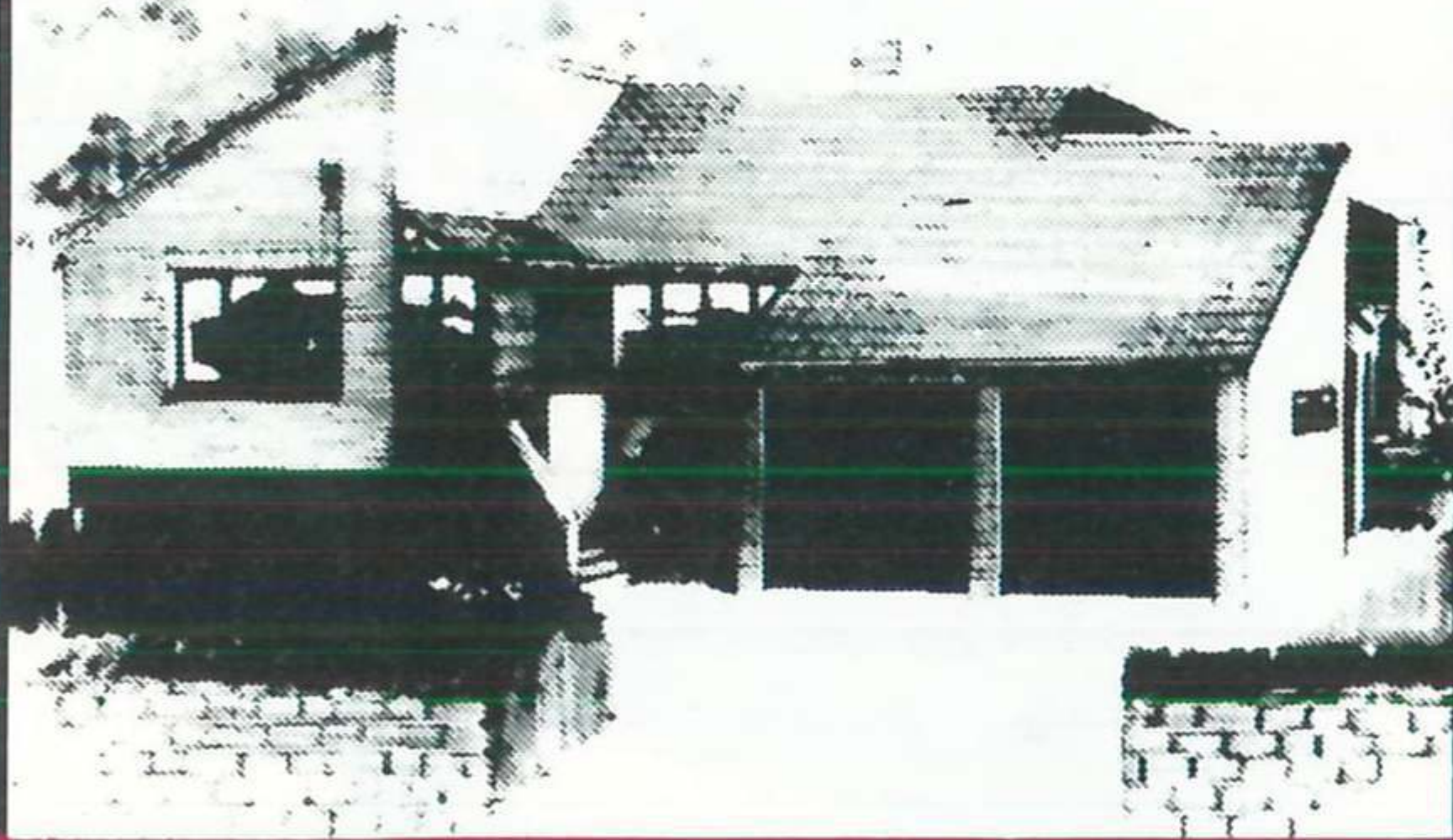
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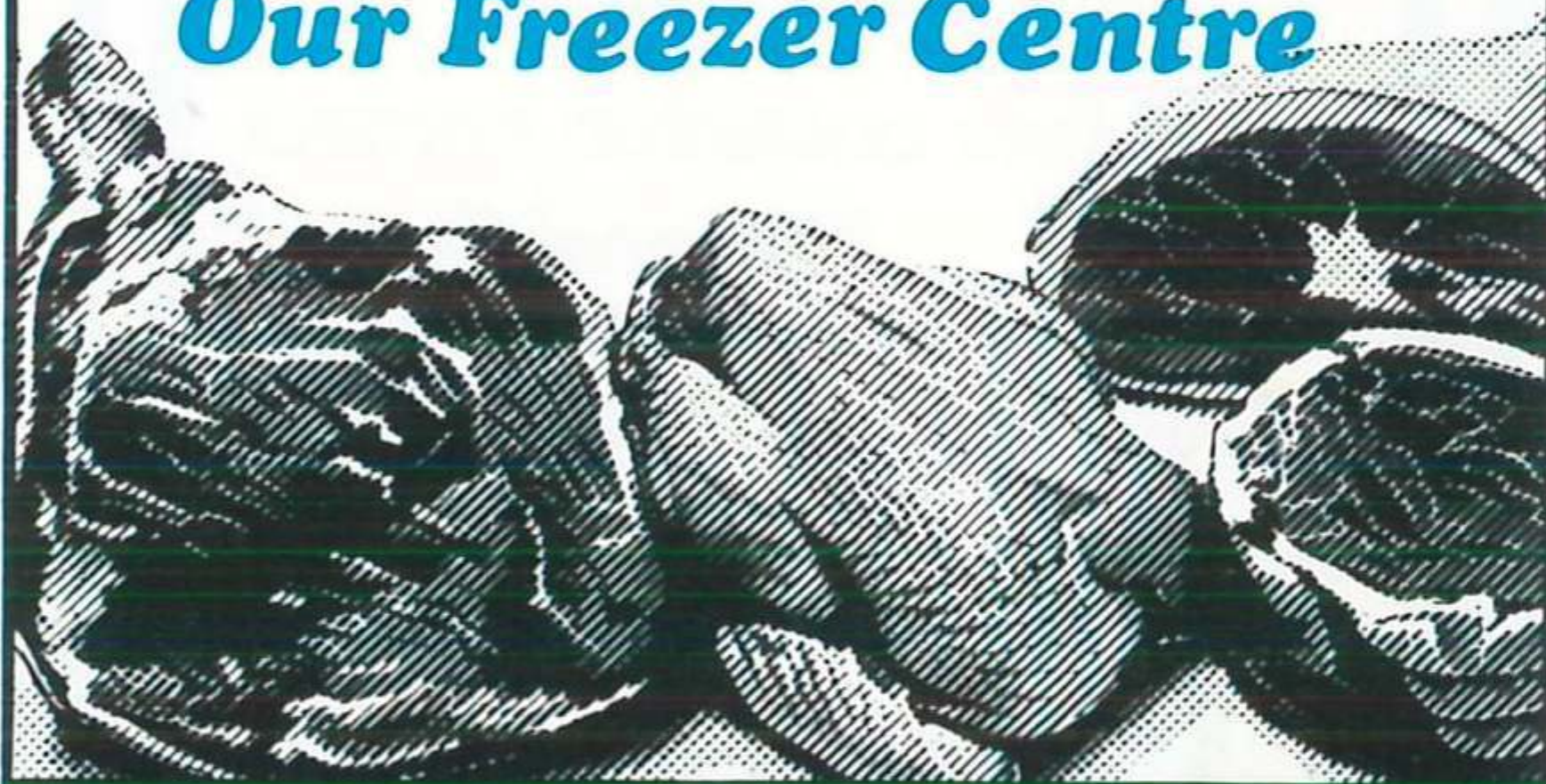
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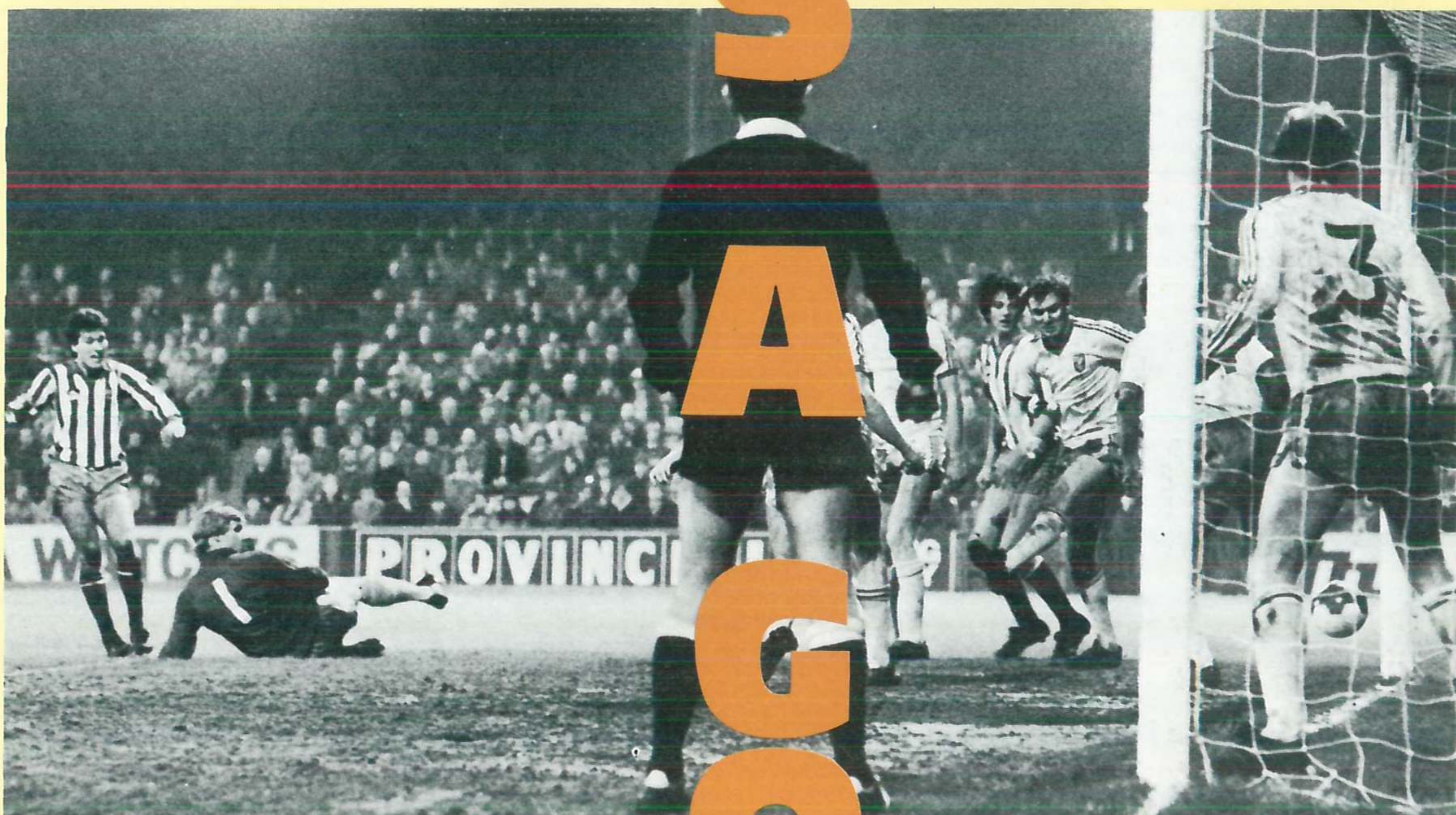
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Exclusive pictures that tell their own story, captured by the camera of 'The Owl' photographer Steve 'Scoop' Ellis at the split second that the ball crosses the line and becomes a goal. Top, Gary Bannister gives us the lead at Derby. Centre, Peter Shirtliff scores our second at Norwich. Bottom, John Pearson heads his second goal against Luton

OWL TALK

by Les Comer

If I was asked to explain the magnetism of football to someone who had no knowledge of the game at all I would impress upon them first that, although it is a game played by teams and watched by crowds, the major enjoyment of it . . . if it is honest and complete and irrespective of whether it is a player or supporter concerned . . . is a very individual personal thing. As we all have different backgrounds and experiences connected with football we naturally voice and indulge in our own particular valid opinions.

The last home game, against Luton, contained most of the ingredients of excitement and controversy that could bring back missing supporters

to the game but it would not have been my choice of match to explain to someone seeing football for the first time because of the inconsistent refereeing.

One of the main points talked about since the game concerned the inexplicable extra time (3 mins 52 secs) played in the second half which allowed Luton to equalise. Certainly I cannot remember ever seeing so many bitter faces around after a match. It will be of little consolation to you to know that the longest match on record was in Santos, Brazil in August 1962 when Santos and Penarol F.C. of Uruguay played for 3½ hours from 9.30 p.m. to 1 a.m. The longest British match

lasted 3 hours 25 minutes between Stockport and Doncaster on the 26th March 1946. (Guinness Book of Records).

There were of course, many good things to associate with the Luton game. I well recall the way the young Owls fought back after going behind twice, the encouraging home debut of Paul Shirtliff, the excellent contribution and two goals from John Pearson, the singing of "Bannister, Bannister by the crowd after his blistering shot put the team in the lead, the applause for Ian Mellor (featured on tonight's front cover) for his unselfish work, and the good image Bannister and Pearson set for the club when they appeared next day on Yorkshire T.V. Apart from all that it was nice to see the way Derek Dougan immediately accepted the spontaneous invite after the match from Tony Carnell to use the Sheffield Sports Commentaries Service to talk about the match to those in the local hospitals.

* * *

I had to have a word with the Pearson family after young John's two goals against Luton (he also played a part in Gary Bannister's goal). I found out he was watched from the North Stand by his parents, grandparents and girl friend Clare. His father (equally pleased with his son's smart showing on T.V. — "we don't like him to look loutish") said "we all got carried away when he scored . . . there we were . . . standing up shouting our heads off!"

John Pearson at Carrow Road.



I put it to John that he looked sharper than I'd seen him before, He told me he felt quite good in terms of stamina but apparently on the day he felt that the Wednesday pitch seemed to hold a bit more. He thought he got through more work against Norwich.

To keep in condition he fits in as many evenings as he can in Tony Toms' gymnasium at Sheffield Lane Top. There you will find him going through heavy weights exercises, lifting up to 300 lbs with his legs while lying on his back . . . I'll settle for sitting in the Press Box lifting a Biro.

* * *

(Come in Peter . . . come in Paul)

It was just over a year ago (31st January 1981) when we published a profile of Peter Shirtliff. At the time I wrote "If Paul Shirtliff joins his older brother in the first team — as seems likely from his performances in the Reserves — they could put Pilley and Hoyland firmly on the football map." Well their joint performance against Luton, for all to see on T.V., must have made their colliery district as proud as peacocks.

They played together against Norwich on the previous Tuesday (6th February) with mum and dad watching but naturally for the Luton match their three younger sisters were also cheering them on. Susan Shirtliff (16) was still a bit breathless when I spoke to her. "Oh it was a great day" she cooed "a lovely, lovely family day." She admitted that during the game she mainly kept her eyes on her brothers. I'm glad the family has a video keepsake of their boys' home debut together — the first brothers playing together in a Wednesday team since the days of Jim and Tom McAnearney in the 50's.



Congratulations brother, Peter shakes hands with Paul before his full debut at Carrow Road.



Paul was preparing to play in a reserve team side against Blackburn when Jack Charlton said to him "I want to have a look at you in the first team (10 minutes team practice) because you might be playing tonight." Paul discovered he had made it when his name appeared on the first team sheet. Jack gave Paul a pretty free role in midfield in both the Norwich and Luton games — filling in the gaps, picking up the ball where he could and not restricting him from trying anything.

Paul has followed the Owls since he was a lad. He certainly made his debut in front of the home fans in an eventful match. "I was a bit nervous before the game" he told me "because I expected a lot from Luton. But as the game went on and the crowd appreciated the way we were battling it lifted me and the rest of the team. To be honest I didn't imagine the crowd was going to be like that . . . and of course the experienced guys like Ian Mellor, Gary Megson and Mark Smith helped me along."

I didn't get a chance to speak to Paul's father, Malcolm, who spent a

lot of time with his sons kicking a ball about when they were young, but Malcolm and his wife Doreen have brought the lads up well — Peter gained six 'O' levels, Paul seven. They both passed the ONC (now BEC) National Business Studies Diploma and look set for rewarding careers in football.

Paul is the lightweight of the two brothers but as we all know it is not the size of boots that count but what you can do in them. You know, over the last few months when I've listened to many opinions about the weakness in the Owls' midfield and invariably small men like Alan Ball, Archie Gemmill, Johnny Giles and Billy Bremner were the names mentioned as the type the Owls need.

Perhaps Paul is the one, as Gary Bannister acknowledged on T.V., who could put that extra bite into the midfield. I saw Paul take the tackles (and more) during the Luton game and liked his final words about being competitive — "You don't have to be tall and well built to be aggressive — it's what's under the shirt that counts — the heart!"

PROFILE

RICHARD BEAUMONT

This week's profile introduces our newest professional who signed forms on the 5th February. Richard joined the club as an apprentice on 16th June 1980 and his progress has been charted like the many local boys on Wednesday's playing staff. He represented Sheffield Boys and joined our nursery club Middlewood Rovers where he was voted Player of the Year 1979/80.

Whilst still at school he also played for the **Wednesday Junior side** and then graduated into the Central League and has a lot of Reserve team football experience behind him.

We are sure all our supporters will join the Owl Magazine in wishing "Richie" every success in his professional career.

FULL NAME: Richard Beaumont

BIRTHPLACE: Parkwood Springs, Sheffield

BIRTHDATE: 5th February, 1964

HEIGHT: 5' 10½"

WEIGHT: 10 st 10 lb

SCHOOL: Hinde House Comprehensive

FAMILY: One brother, Lee

TEAM SUPPORTED AS BOY:
Sheffield Wednesday

FAVOURITE OTHER PLAYER: Pele

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Golf, Snooker

FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK:
Steak and Chips, Milk

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES:
All sports/Losing, Smoking

FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMME: Minder

FAVOURITE FILM/TV STAR: Michael Caine

FAVOURITE SINGER OR GROUP: O.M.D., Jam

FAVOURITE RECORD:
"Dare", album by Human League

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Parents

PERSONAL AMBITION: To be a successful Pro.

WHICH PERSON WOULD MOST LIKE TO
MEET: Olivia Newton John

Richard gets in a header in a youth cup-tie against Manchester United.





NEWS ROUND

ST. JAMES PARK

Measures are being taken to segregate supporters at our forthcoming game at Newcastle. Anyone wishing to use standing facilities must purchase a ticket for our allocated area which are available from our Box Office at £1.70. Seat tickets are also available at £3.50.

OLDHAM v WEDNESDAY

at Boundary Park, Oldham, on 13th March 1982 will be an ALL TICKET match.

We shall have tickets for the Standing Area at £1.60 and Seats at £2.80 (Adult) and £1.40 (Juvenile).

SUPPORTERS CLUB

Newcastle United
Fare £4. Depart 3.00 p.m.

Cardiff City
Fare £5.50. Depart 8.00 a.m.

Buffet and Dance will be held at the Embassy Ballroom, Intake on Monday, 26th April. Tickets at £3.80.

Weekend Trip. Arrangements are being looked into for a proposed weekend at Blackpool following our game at Bolton on Saturday, 8th May. Further details available from the Supporters Club.



We aren't quite sure what Arthur Negus would make of it, but Joan Evans of The Owl Shop thinks that this Wednesday quartz clock is a winner. It's a new line and costs £19.99. An ideal gift for any supporter with time on his hands . . . or wants to check on the referee.

TODAY'S REFEREE

Ken Barratt commenced refereeing in 1968 and progressed via the West Midlands League to the Football League list. Has refereed various local Cup Finals, including the West Midlands League Premier Cup Final in 1980.

A married man, with two daughters, he is a machine tool fitter.

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Enclosure: Adults £1.80.
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Grange End: Adults £1.60.
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1st Adult and Child £2.10,
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Tuesday, 9th February

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STATISTICS

	Highest Home Gate	Highest Away Gate	Total Watched
Luton Town	12,839	21,037	245,967
Watford	14,463	20,036	281,233
Oldham Athletic	15,400	17,839*	214,598
WEDNESDAY	30,621	28,870	381,214
Blackburn Rovers	15,050*	18,721	252,382
Barnsley	28,870*	30,621*	331,062
Q.P.R.	22,022	17,024	265,445
Newcastle United	21,037	18,477	311,734
Chelsea	20,036	22,022	303,895
Charlton Athletic	11,333	15,329	222,403
Rotherham United	18,324	26,826*	232,618
Norwich City	19,348	14,509	289,161
Cambridge United	8,806	14,699	170,263
Leicester City	19,125*	16,046	251,095
Derby County	16,046	23,674*	276,722
Orient	9,698	13,435	170,528
Shrewsbury Town	5,572	13,846	134,675
Crystal Palace	15,267	18,476	229,240
Bolton Wanderers	16,577	16,606	212,096
Cardiff City	8,898	15,621*	167,654
Wrexham	4,907*	18,526*	157,285
Grimsby Town	13,110*	11,931	169,327

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Luton Town	22	15	4	3	49	24	+25	49
Watford	24	13	6	5	40	26	+14	45
Oldham Athletic	26	11	9	6	36	28	+8	42
WEDNESDAY	24	12	5	7	34	33	+1	41
Blackburn Rovers	26	10	9	7	30	24	+6	39
Barnsley	24	11	5	8	36	24	+12	38
Q.P.R.	24	11	5	8	29	21	+8	38
Newcastle United	23	11	3	9	32	24	+8	36
Chelsea	23	10	6	7	33	31	+2	36
Charlton Athletic	27	9	9	9	36	38	-2	36
Rotherham United	24	10	3	11	33	34	-1	33
Norwich City	24	9	4	11	31	35	-4	31
Cambridge United	24	9	3	12	27	30	-3	30
Leicester City	21	7	8	6	28	23	+5	29
Derby County	25	8	5	12	33	45	-12	29
Orient	24	8	4	12	21	29	-8	28
Shrewsbury Town	21	7	5	9	22	30	-8	26
Crystal Palace	21	7	4	10	16	18	-2	25
BOLTON W.	24	7	4	13	22	25	-13	25
Cardiff City	23	7	3	13	24	35	-11	24
Wrexham	22	5	4	13	21	33	-12	19
Grimsby Town	20	4	6	10	22	25	-13	18

Figures in **blue*** indicate matches involving Sheffield Wednesday

A WEDNESDAYITES Opinion

'I must have got the best view in the ground', that's the happy claim of Owls fan **Derek Ward**.

Derek has recently moved down from a place in the North Stand to a touchline spot near the Penistone Road End.

Despite being confined to his wheelchair he still manages to attend **every** home and away game to watch his favourite team, with his parents, either by coach, or in his mum's car.

He took a keen interest in football from an early age, and since his first visit at the age of eight has become one of the 'Hillsborough faithful'.

Derek's favourite Owls are all strikers — Andy McCulloch, Gary Bannister, and Terry Curran with the present squad and Rodger Wylde, who's scoring goals for Oldham now.

Amongst his collection of soccer souvenirs, scarves and badges, pride of place goes to two Wednesday shirts given to him by Brian Joicey and then Andy McCulloch after our promotion game v Carlisle.

Other collectors pieces are the red and yellow cards presented to him by referee George Courtenay after using them for the last time at one of our home games.

Derek says he wishes Mr. Courtenay had been in charge of our last home fixture v Luton, but adds that the referee's decisions on the day seemed to get the crowd behind Wednesday and created a great atmosphere.



Our performance against the Hatters pleased him, especially Paul Shirtliff, who 'got stuck in and made some telling passes', although he does feel that we need strengthening in some areas to maintain our challenge at the top.

Derek Ward's enthusiasm and encouragement from his ringside seat are an example to all football supporters to get behind their team and cheer them on as we did against Luton.

AWAY the Lads



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- 10 JOHN PEARSON
- 11 IAN MELLOR
- 12 TERRY CURRAN



BOLTON

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- 3 MIKE BENNETT
- 4 TONY HENRY
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- 11 CHRIS THOMPSON
- 12



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